MITSUTERU YOKOYAMA

IN 1956, I STARTED WRITING TETSUJIN-28 AND SINCE THEN I HAVE WRITTEN A LOT OF SCI-FI MANGA. EVERY TIME I FINISH ONE, I THINK ABOUT QUITTING SCI-FI AND WRITING A DIFFERENT KIND OF STORY.

BUT BEFORE TOO LONG, I FIND MYSELF WRITING ANOTHER SCI-FI MANGA.

I GUESS I JUST LIKE SCI-FI MANGA.

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MARS 3

SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

● Sci-Fi Comics ● Mitsuteru Yokoyama

MARS 3

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MARS

Volume 3

MITSUTERU YOKOYAMA

Shonen Champion Comics

(1976, Issues 30 - 39)

THE STORY SO FAR:

MARS, WHO WAS DISCOVERED ON THE NEW ISLAND OF AKINOSHIMA, WAS PROGRAMMED BY ALIENS ALONGSIDE THE SIX GODS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESTROYING EARTH. BUT A SLIGHT DEVIATION IN MARS' PROGRAMMING SAVED THE WORLD FROM DESTRUCTION. THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE SIX GODS, WHO REMAIN LOYAL TO THEIR ORDERS, AND MARS, WHO DEFENDS THE EARTH ALONGSIDE GAIA, HAS BEGUN. GAIA HAS DEFEATED THE FIRST GOD TO APPEAR, URANUS. MEANWHILE, A GOD HAS APPEARED IN THE DESERT OF EGYPT. MARS HEADS TO HIS LOCATION...!

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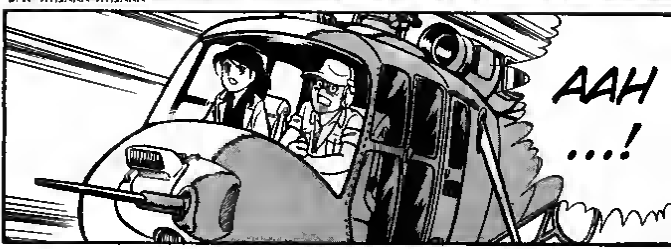
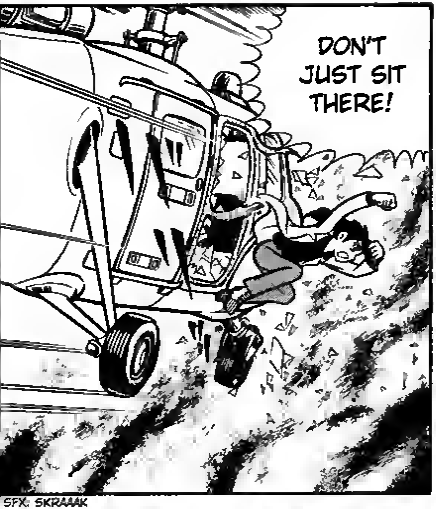
★MARS CORNERED 162

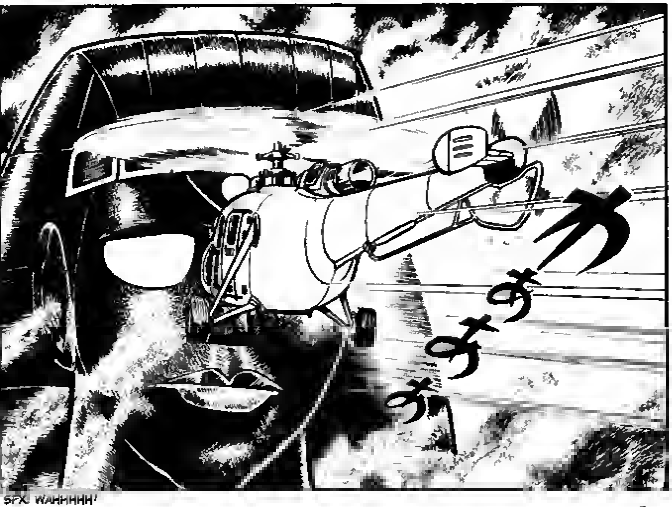
THE END OF THE SPHINX

SFX WHIRRR WHIRRR





SFX: SKRAAAK



SFX: WAHHHHH!

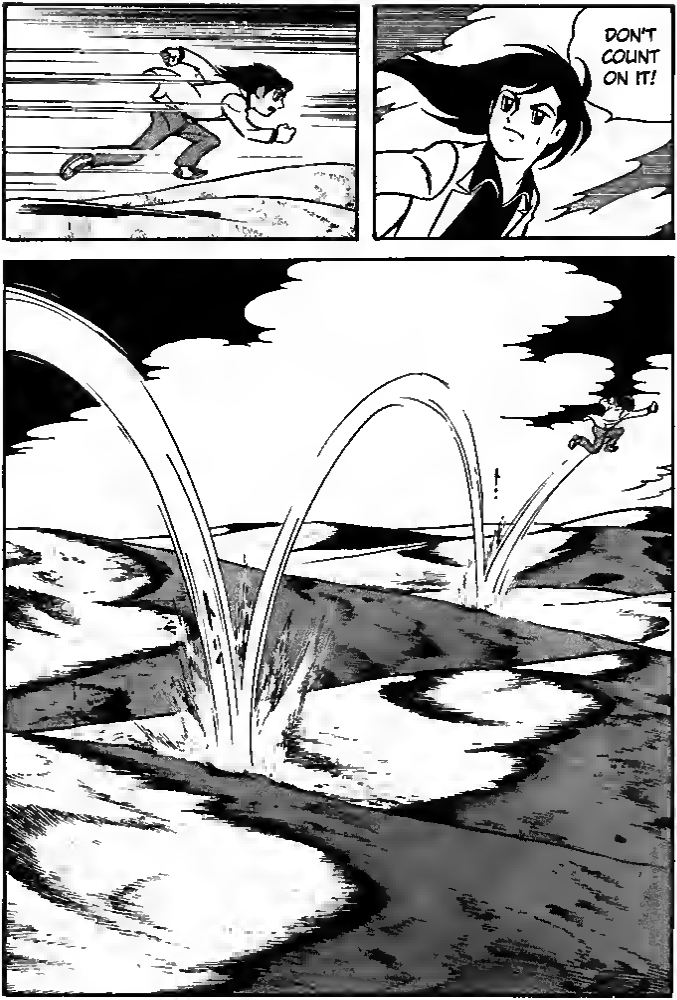
SFX KA-BOOOOOM!

ARE YOU ONE OF THE SIX GODS !?

SO THAT'S THE DEVIL'S TRUE FORM ...!?

THAT'S RIGHT, MARS! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU...!
HEH HEH HEH... THE WORLD WILL BE DESTROYED ONCE YOU ARE DEFEATED ANYWAY! I ONLY HASTENED ITS DESTRUCTION IN THIS AREA!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE ONLY AFTER ME!? WHY DID YOU KILL SO MANY PEOPLE ...!?
I CREATED THIS CATASTROPHE IN ORDER TO LURE YOU OUT!
FURTHERMORE, THIS SPHINX CANNOT FLY OR SWIM.

BUT YOU SAVED ME THE TROUBLE. YOU SHOWED UP EARLIER THAN I EXPECTED.
IF YOU HADN'T SHOWN UP, I WOULD HAVE GONE TO DESTROY LIBYA, SUDAN, AND THEN ETHIOPIA!
NOW... YOUR LIFE IS MINE, MARS!


DON'T COUNT ON IT!

BUT HOW LONG CAN YOU KEEP RUNNING?
YOU REALLY ARE FAST, MARS!
SFX CLICK!
SFX. TAP!
OHH !?

SFX. STOMP STOMP
THERE'S ANOTHER SPHINX IN FRONT OF ME...!?
WHAT ...!?

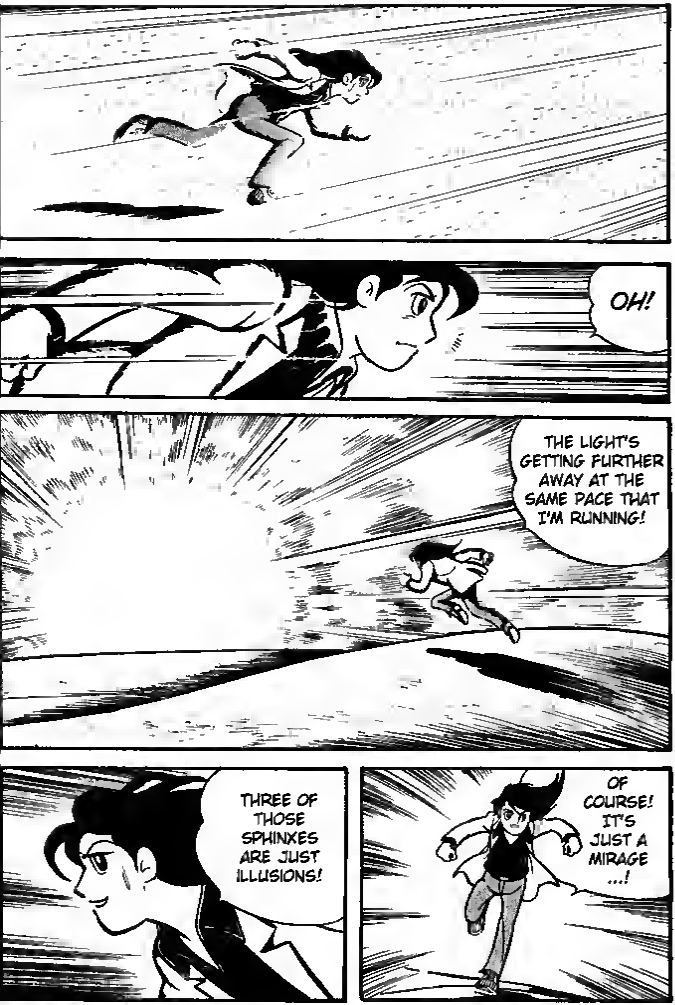
SFX. STOMP STOMP STOMP
OHH !?
ANOTHER TO THE LEFT!
SFX. STOMP STOMP STOMP

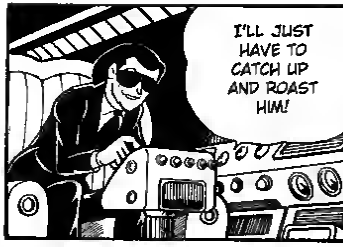
WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO RUN!?
THERE'S A SPHINX COMING FROM EACH DIRECTION...!
SFX. GLOW GLOW
SFX. GLOW GLOW GLOW GLOW
SFX. GLOW GLOW GLOW GLOW

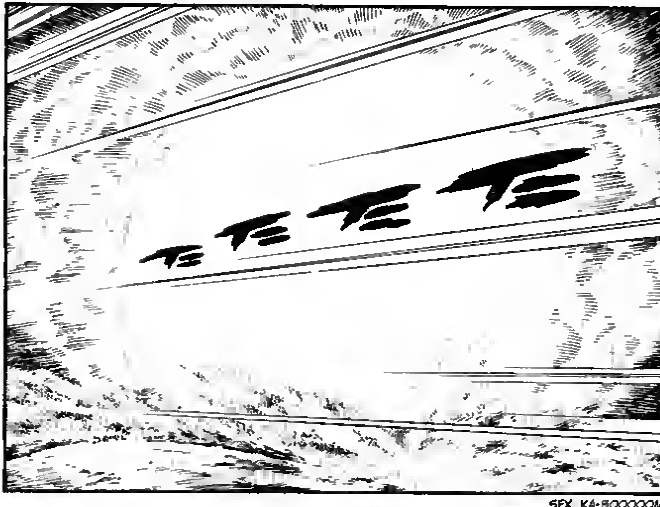
I'LL BE MELTED IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING QUICK!
SFX GLOW GLOW GLOW
JUST HOW FAR DOES IT'S HEAT WAVE TRAVEL...!?
IS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO ESCAPE BETWEEN THE SPHINXES?
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT!
SFX ZOOM ZOOM ZOOM

IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE ANY OF THEM WERE MELTED OVER THERE!
HUH !?
COULD THAT MEAN...?

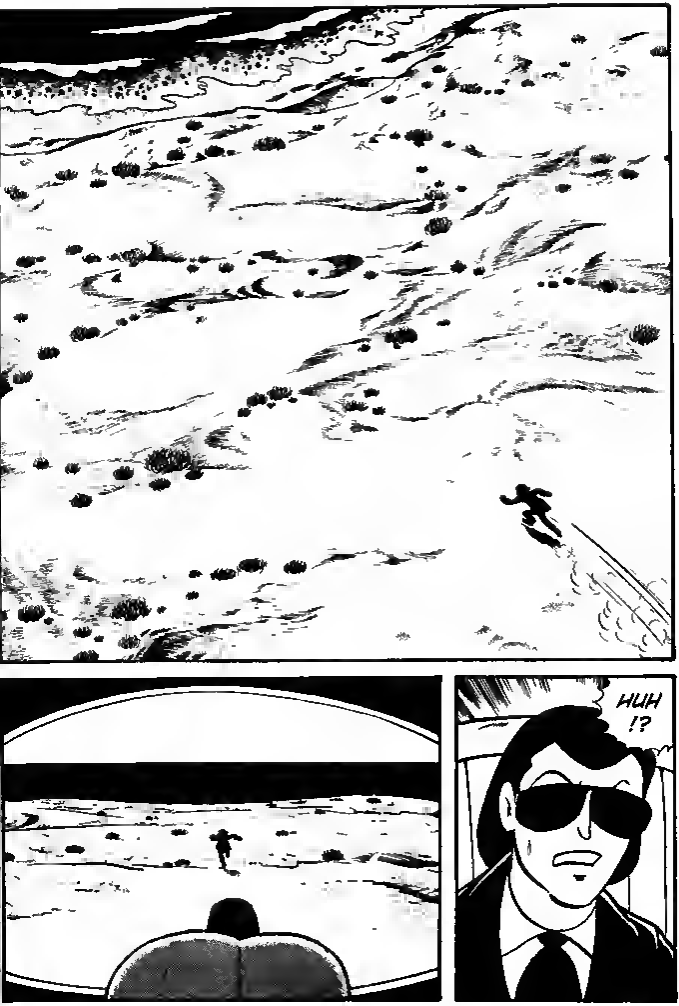
I CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME...!
OWW ...!

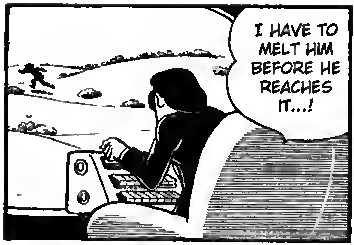

OH!
THE LIGHT'S GETTING FURTHER AWAY AT THE SAME PACE THAT I'M RUNNING!
THREE OF THOSE SPHINXES ARE JUST ILLUSIONS!
OF COURSE! IT'S JUST A MIRAGE ...!

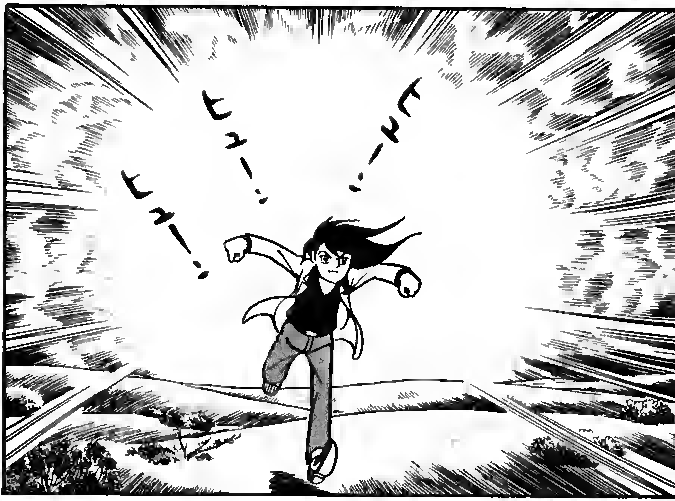




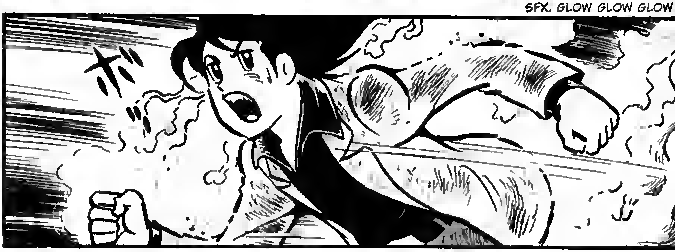
SFX KA-BOOOOOM!


HUH
!?



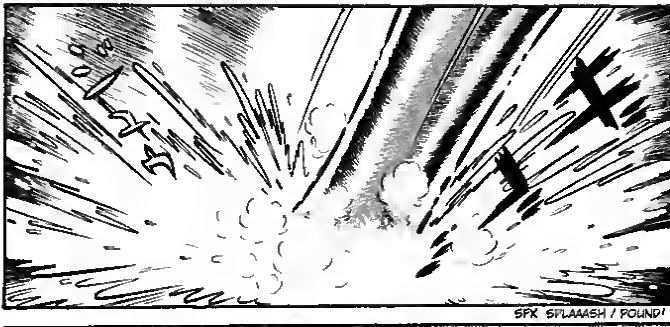


SFX. GLOW GLOW GLOW

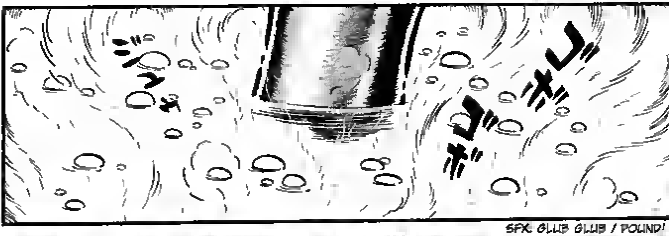


FOOOM!

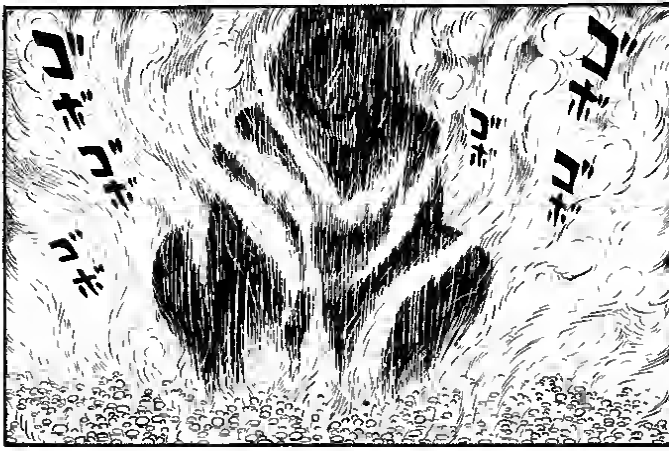
SFX SFLAAASH
ALRIGHT THEN, I'LL JUST BOIL THE SEA WATER!
DAMN ...!



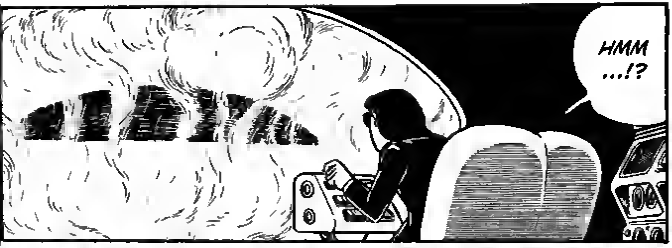
SFX: SPLAAASH / POUND!



SFX: GLUB GLUB / POUND!



SFX: GLUB GLUB GLUB GLUB GLUB GLUB



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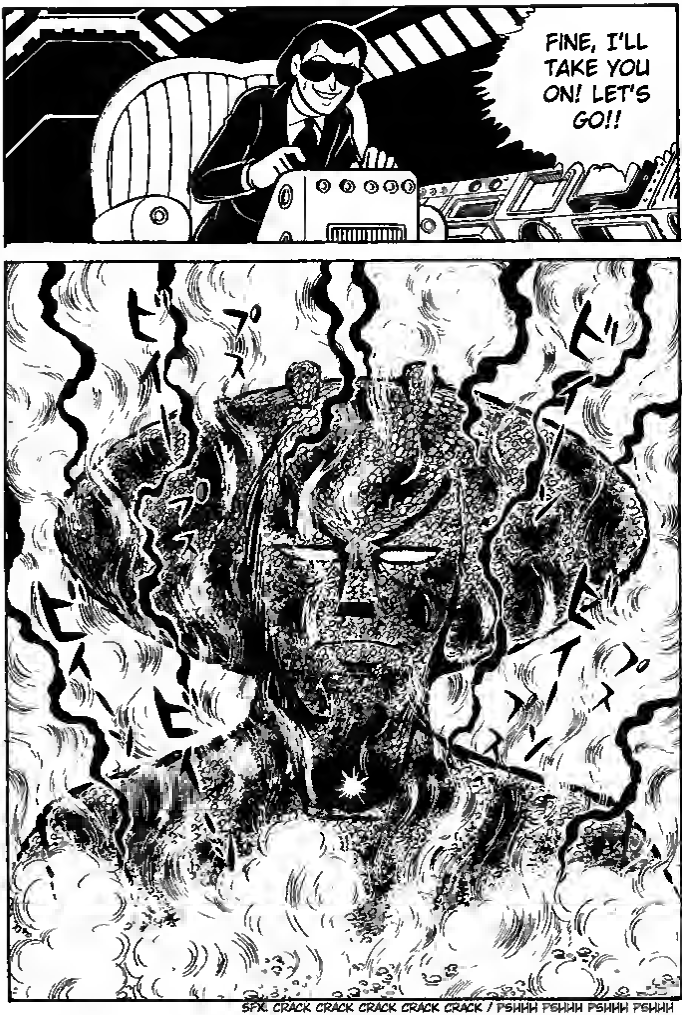
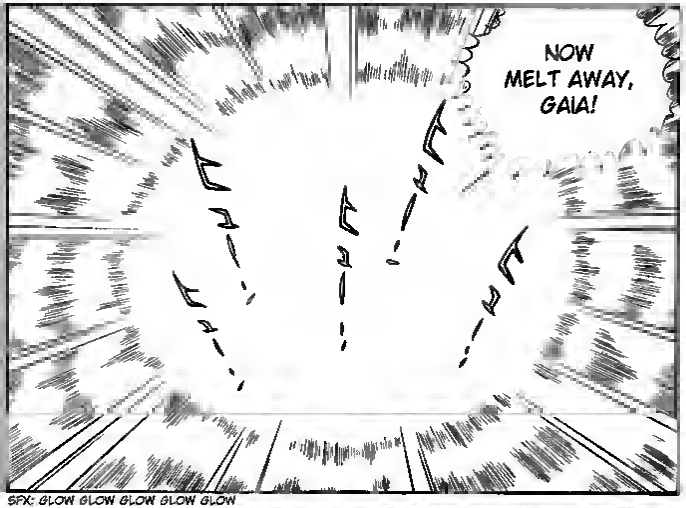
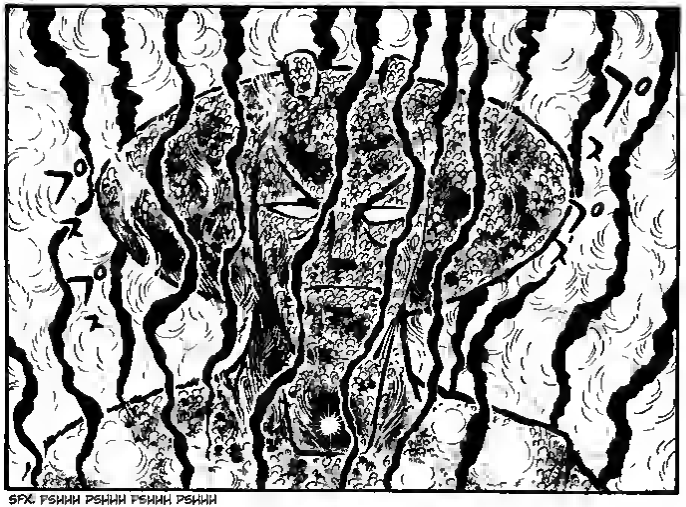
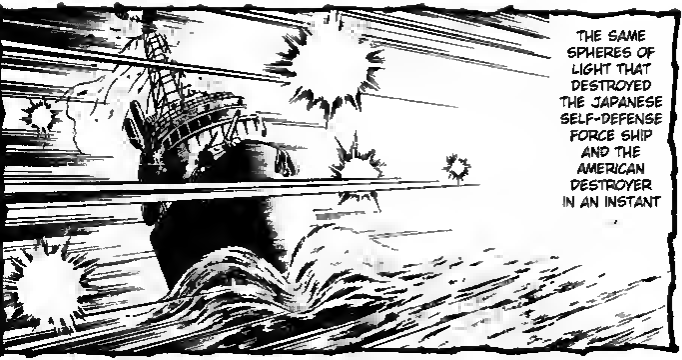

FINE, I'LL TAKE YOU ON! LET'S GO!!
SFX: CRACK CRACK CRACK CRACK CRACK / PSHHH PSHHH PSHHH PSHHH

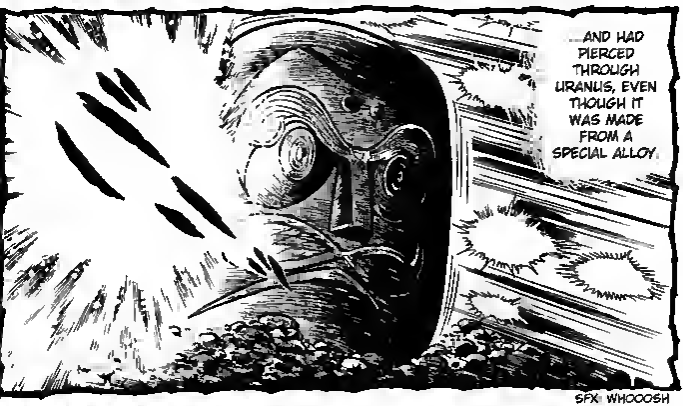

NOW MELT AWAY, GAIA!
SFX: GLOW GLOW GLOW GLOW GLOW


SFX: PSHHH PSHHH PSHHH PSHHH

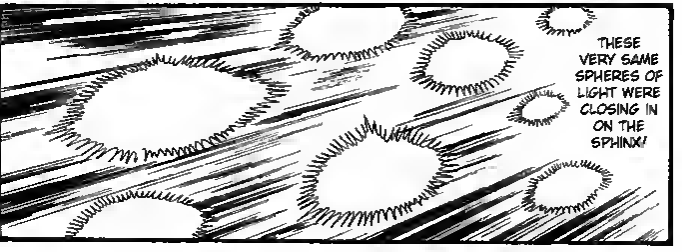
SFX CRACK CRACK CRACK CRACK

AT THAT MOMENT, SPHERES OF LIGHT SURGED FORTH FROM GAIA...
SFX WHOOOSH WHOOOSH


THE SAME SPHERES OF LIGHT THAT DESTROYED THE JAPANESE SELF-DEFENSE FORCE SHIP AND THE AMERICAN DESTROYER IN AN INSTANT

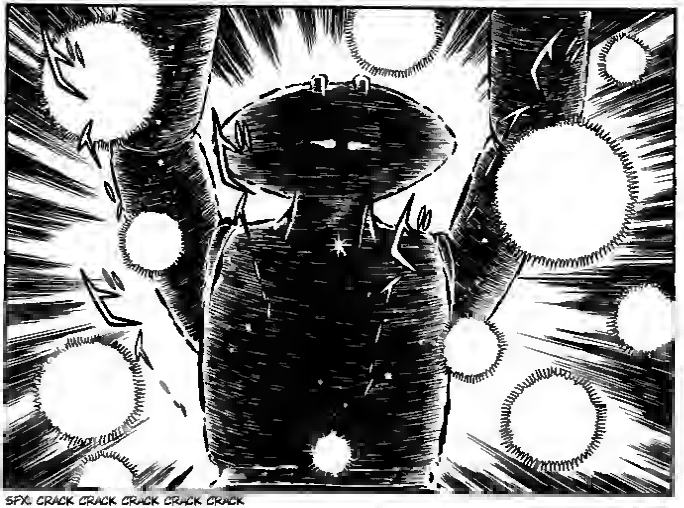

...AND HAD PIERCED THROUGH URANUS, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS MADE FROM A SPECIAL ALLOY.

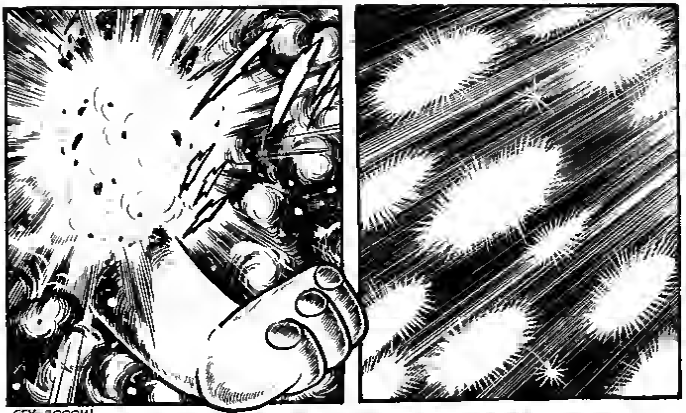
SFX: WHOOOSH

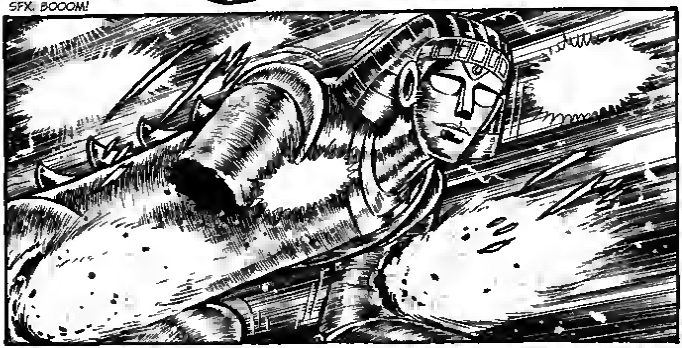

THESE VERY SAME SPHERES OF LIGHT WERE CLOSING IN ON THE SPHINX!

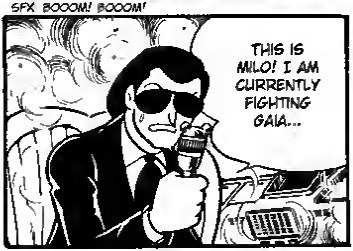
SFX: BOOOM
I'D EXPECT NO LESS FROM GAIA!
AAH!
LET'S SEE IF MAXIMUM OUTPUT HAS ANY EFFECT
SFX. WHOOOOOOOSH

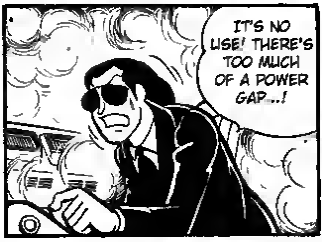
SFX: WHOOOOOOOSH

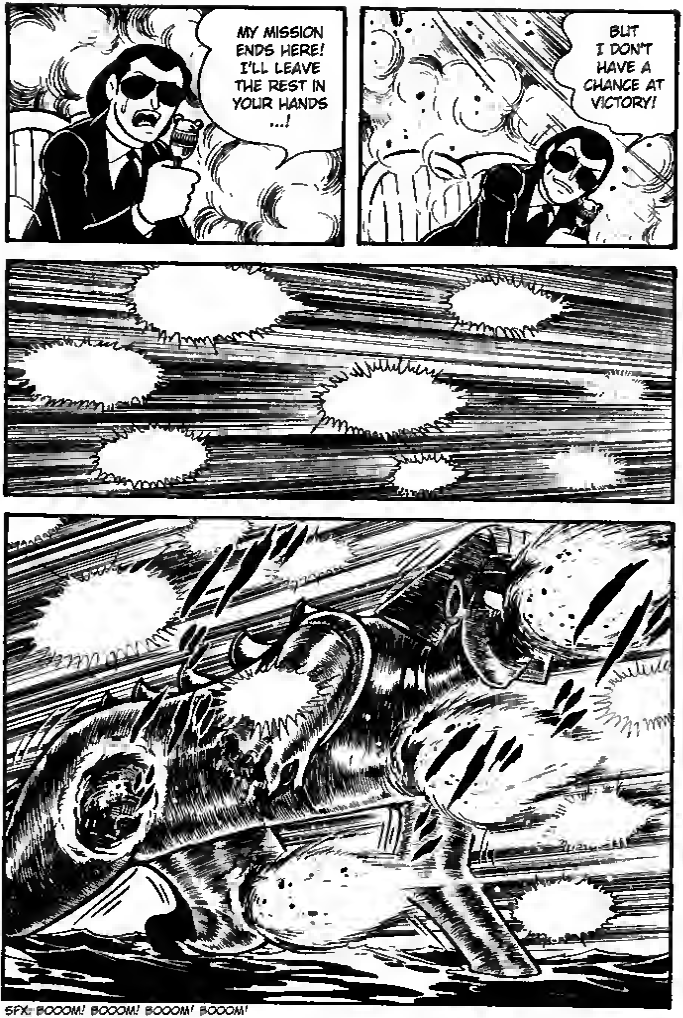

SFX: CRACK CRACK CRACK CRACK CRACK

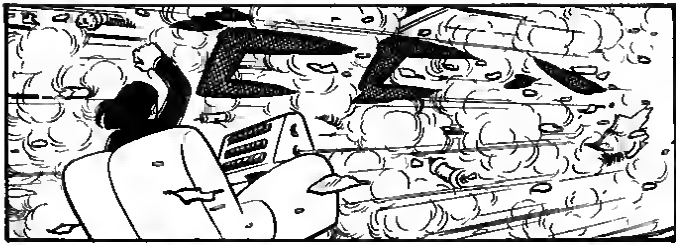

SFX. BOOOM!


SFX. BOOOM! BOOOM!

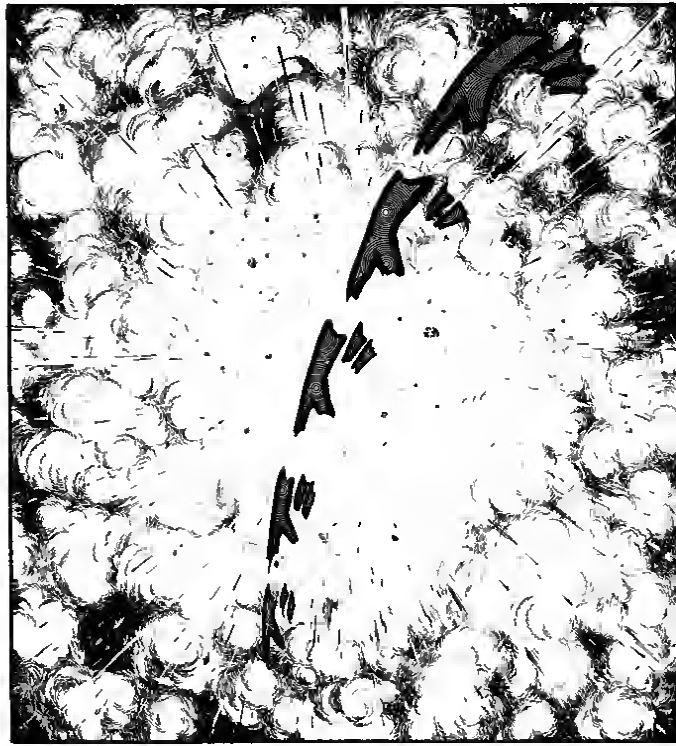

THIS IS MILO! I AM CURRENTLY FIGHTING GAIA...


IT'S NO USE! THERE'S TOO MUCH OF A POWER GAP...!


MY MISSION ENDS HERE! I'LL LEAVE THE REST IN YOUR HANDS ...!
BUT I DON'T HAVE A CHANCE AT VICTORY!
SFX: BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!



SFX KRSSSHHH

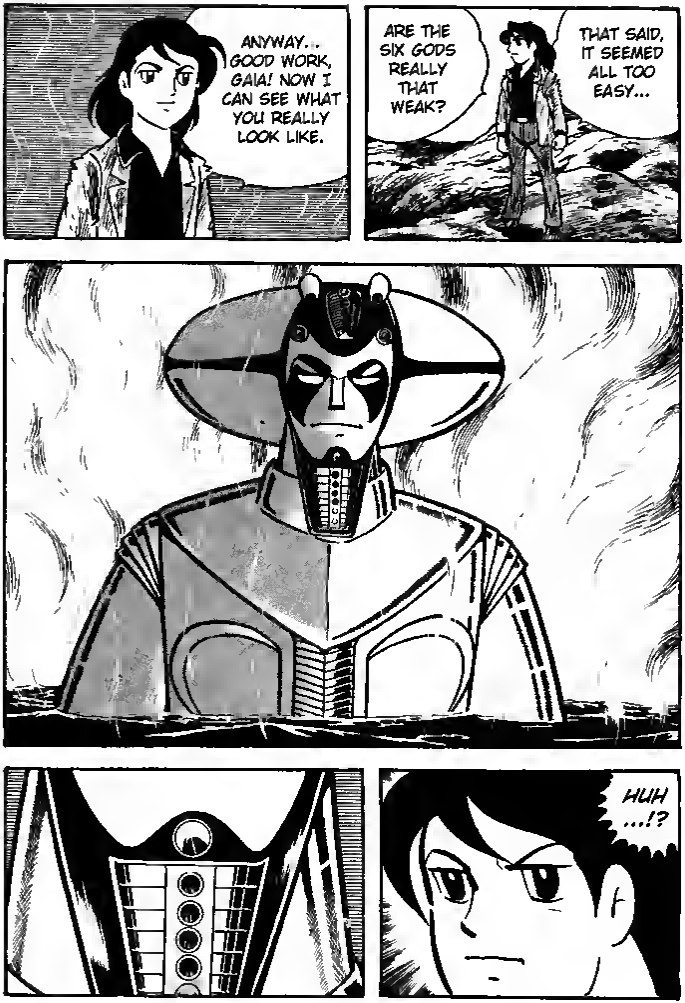


SFX KA-BOOOOOOOM!

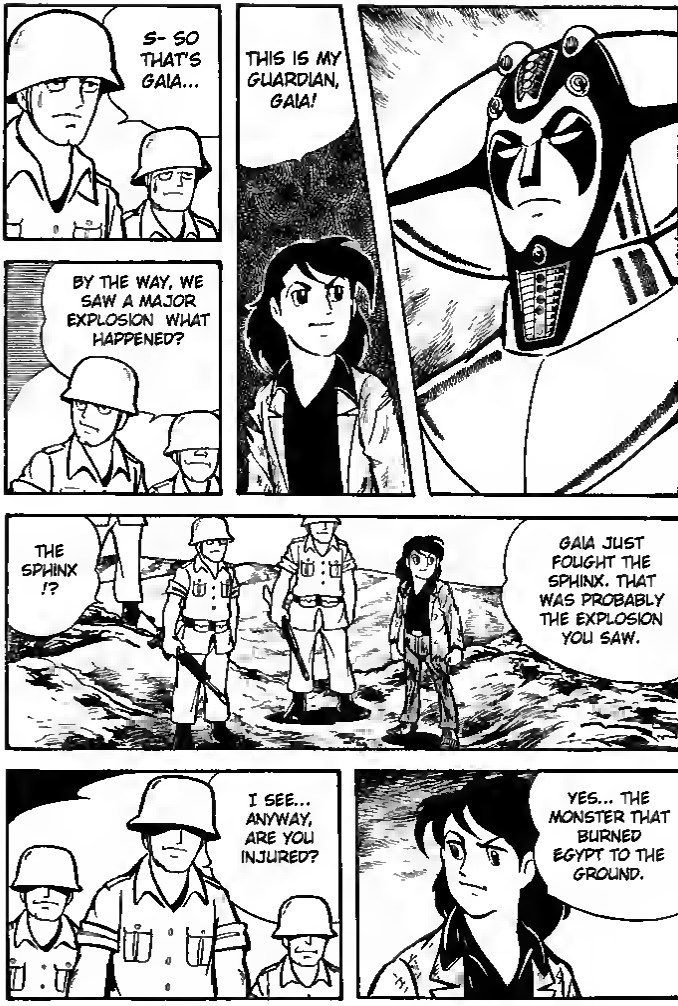
WHAT WAS THAT EXPLOSION!?
OHH ...!?
LET'S GO AND CHECK IT OUT!
SFX KA-BOOOOOOOM!

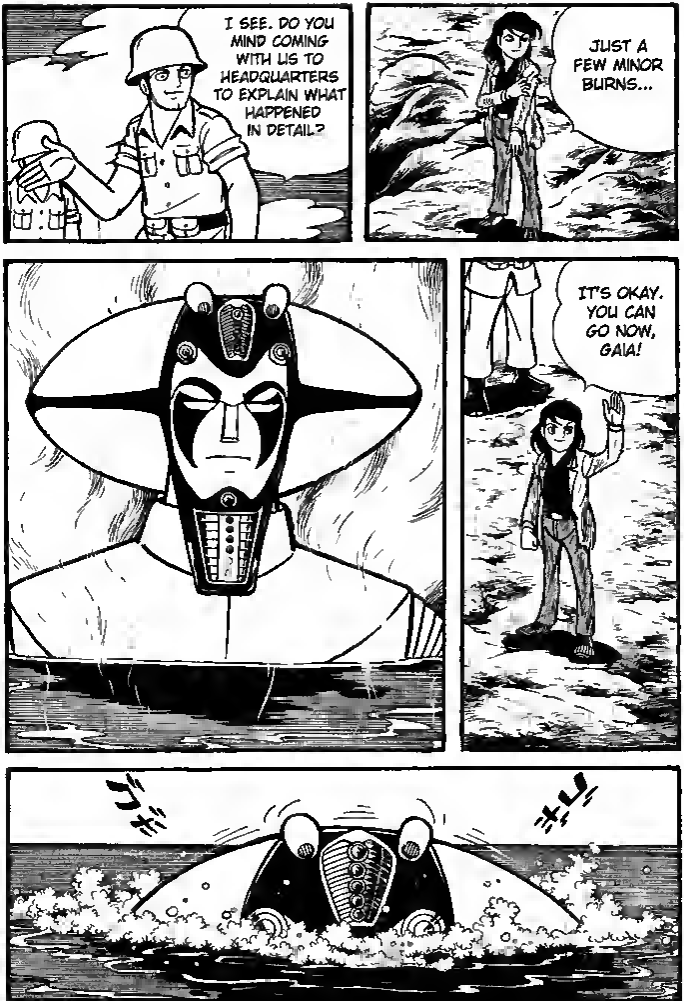
SFX. BROOOM
SFX. SPLASH!
SEEMS LIKE IT'S OVER.

IT'S AS WARM AS A HOT SPRING IN HERE...
THERE'S NO TRACE LEFT OF THE SPHINX!


ANYWAY... GOOD WORK, GAIA! NOW I CAN SEE WHAT YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE.
ARE THE SIX GODS REALLY THAT WEAK?
THAT SAID, IT SEEMED ALL TOO EASY...
HUH ...!?

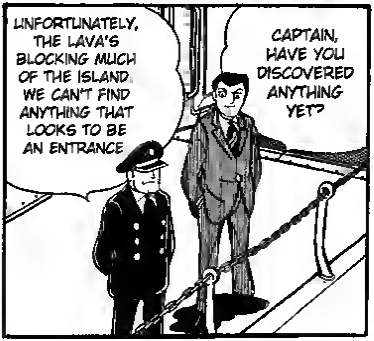
ONE FOR WHEN I DEFEATED URANUS... AND ANOTHER ONE NOW!
THERE ARE TWO LIGHTS ON NOW!
BUT... WHY IS THAT ON GAIA?
?
I GET IT... THOSE LIGHTS TURN ON WHEN A GOD IS DEFEATED!
SFX BROOOM
WHA... WHAT IS THAT!?
OH! THERE YOU ARE, MARS...

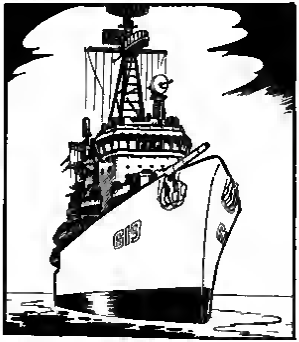

S- SO THAT'S GAIA...
THIS IS MY GUARDIAN, GAIA!
BY THE WAY, WE SAW A MAJOR EXPLOSION WHAT HAPPENED?
THE SPHINX !?
GAIA JUST FOUGHT THE SPHINX. THAT WAS PROBABLY THE EXPLOSION YOU SAW.
I SEE... ANYWAY, ARE YOU INJURED?
YES... THE MONSTER THAT BURNED EGYPT TO THE GROUND.

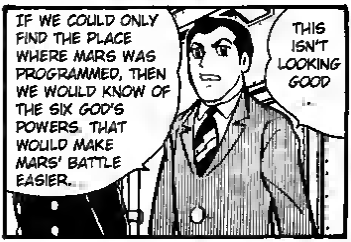

I SEE. DO YOU MIND COMING WITH US TO HEADQUARTERS TO EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED IN DETAIL?
JUST A FEW MINOR BURNS...
IT'S OKAY. YOU CAN GO NOW, GAIA!
SFX: GLUB GLUB

OKAY, LET'S GO.
MARS HAD DEFEATED TWO OF THE GODS, BUT HE FELT HEAVY-HEARTED. HE COULDN'T HELP BUT FEEL THIS WAS ALL A LITTLE TOO EASY...

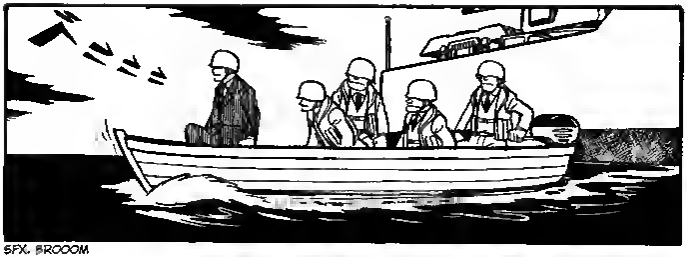
THE THIRD GOD APPEARS


UNFORTUNATELY, THE LAVA'S BLOCKING MUCH OF THE ISLAND. WE CAN'T FIND ANYTHING THAT LOOKS TO BE AN ENTRANCE.
CAPTAIN, HAVE YOU DISCOVERED ANYTHING YET?

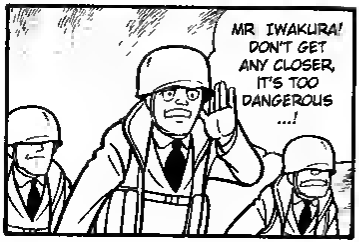


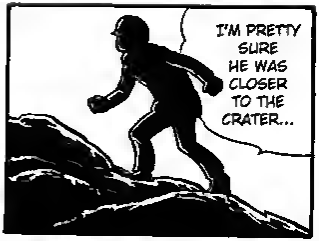

IF WE COULD ONLY FIND THE PLACE WHERE MARS WAS PROGRAMMED, THEN WE WOULD KNOW OF THE SIX GOD'S POWERS. THAT WOULD MAKE MARS' BATTLE EASIER.
THIS ISN'T LOOKING GOOD..

IT'S TOO DANGEROUS, I CAN'T LET YOU GO.
CAPTAIN! PLEASE, LET ME GO TO THE ISLAND ...!
IT WOULD BE THE END OF THE WORLD!
IF ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO MARS WHILE WE'RE JUST SITTING HERE DOING NOTHING...
I'M SURE THE ENTRANCE IS NEAR WHERE I FOUND HIM!
BUT I'M THE ONE WHO FOUND MARS! I KNOW WHERE HE WAS STANDING BETTER THAN ANYONE!
ALRIGHT, FINE. BUT BE CAREFUL!
HMM ...
CAPTAIN, LET ME GO TO THE ISLAND! THE LATER WE DISCOVER IT, THE MORE DANGER EARTH WILL BE IN!
HEY, DOWN THERE! I'M COMING, TOO!
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO HEAR ..!


SFX. BROOOM

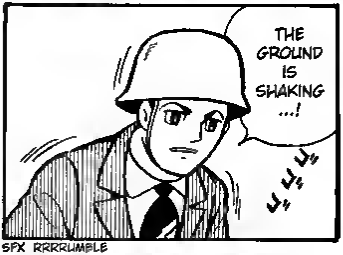
SFX. BROOOM


MR. IWAKURA! DON'T GET ANY CLOSER, IT'S TOO DANGEROUS ...!

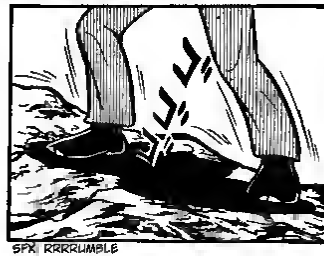

I'M PRETTY SURE HE WAS CLOSER TO THE CRATER...

I HAVE TO RISK IT! THE FATE OF OUR PLANET DEPENDS ON IT!
MR. IWA-KURA!
TURN BACK NOW!
SFX RRRRUMBLE

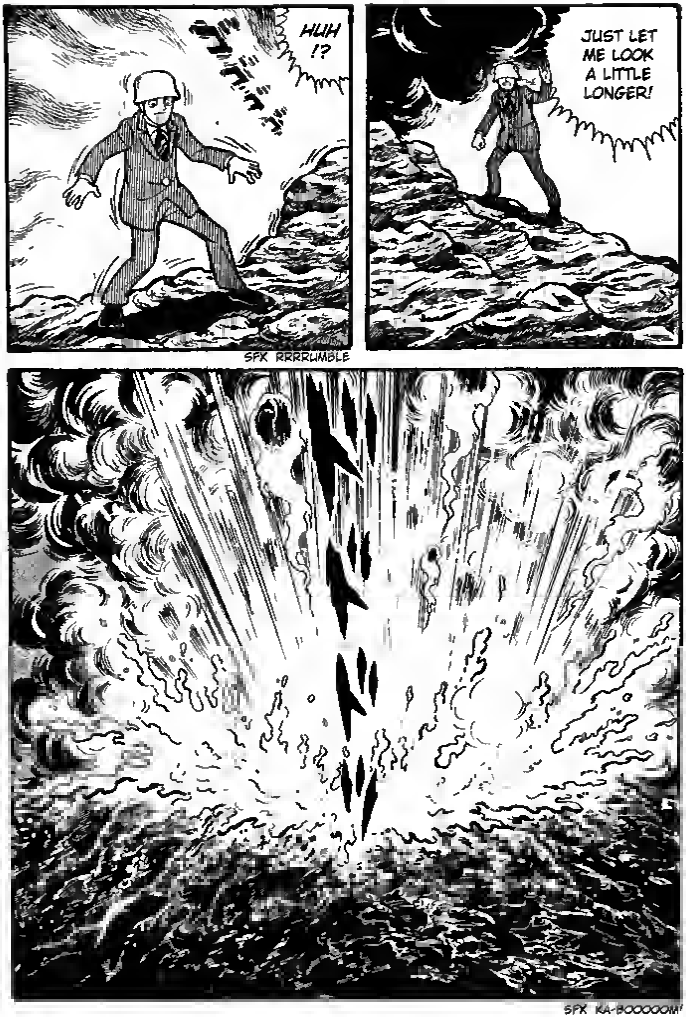
SFX RRRRUMBLE



SFX RRRRUMBLE

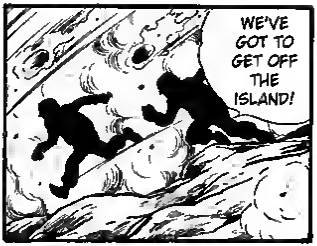


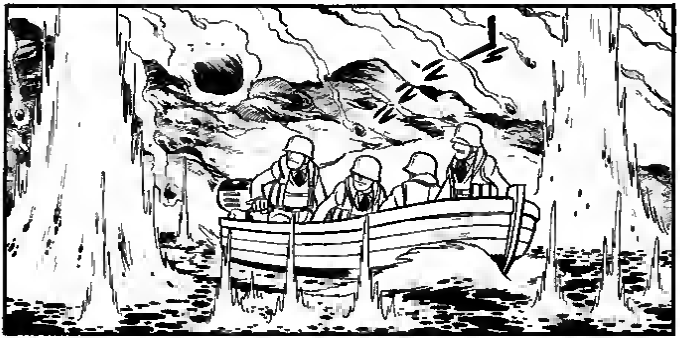
SFX RRRRUMBLE


HUH !?
JUST LET ME LOOK A LITTLE LONGER!
SFX RRRRUMBLE
SFX KA-BOOOOOM!

HURRY, MR. IWAKURA! HURRY!!
WAAH ...!
SFX. KA-BOOOOOM!
SFX. CRAAACK CRAAACK

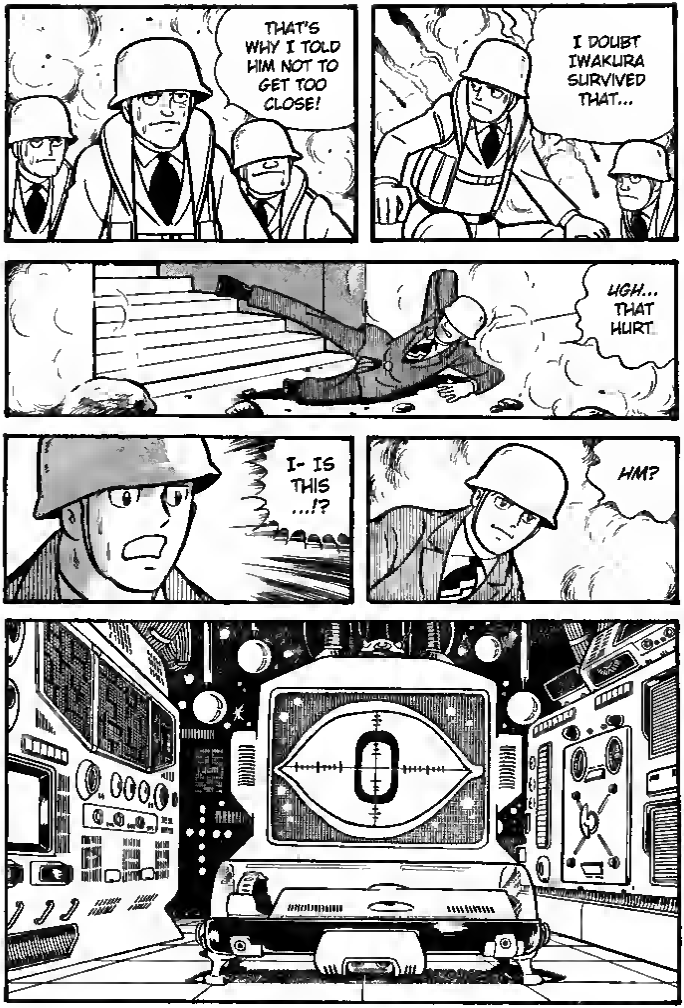
WAH!
SFX. WAHHH!
MR. IWAKURA ...!
AAH!
SFX. FOOOM FOOOM

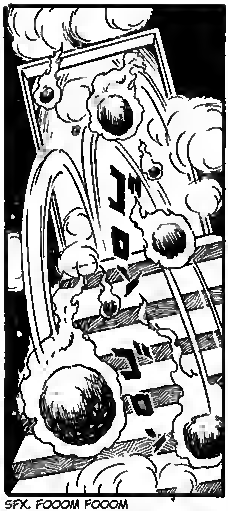




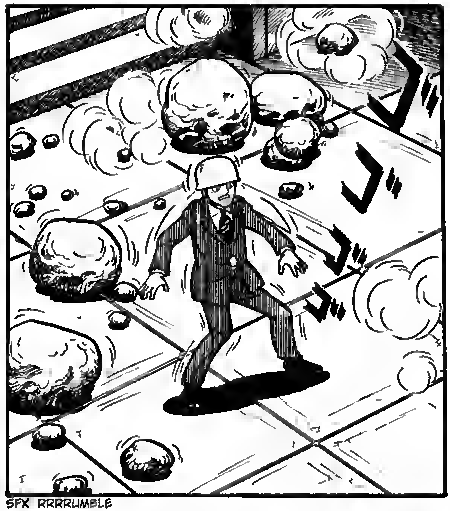
SFX BROOOM

SFX KA-BOOOM!

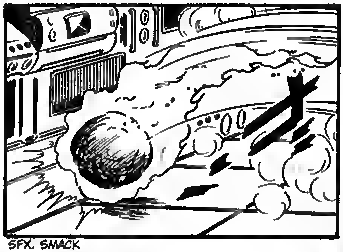

THAT'S WHY I TOLD HIM NOT TO GET TOO CLOSE!
I DOUBT IWAKURA SURVIVED THAT...
UGH... THAT HURT.
I- IS THIS ...!?
HM?



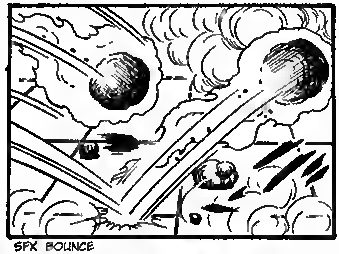
SFX. FOOOM FOOOM



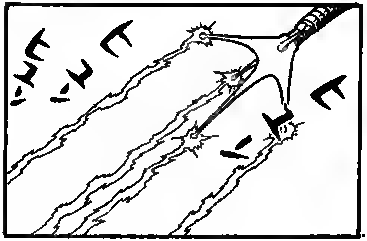
SFX RRRRUMBLE



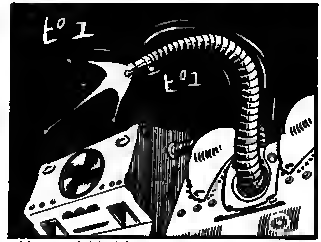
SFX. SMACK



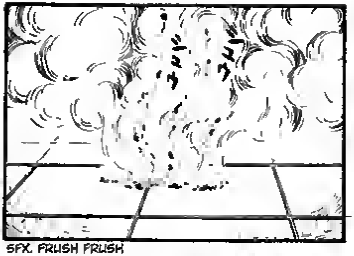
SFX BOUNCE



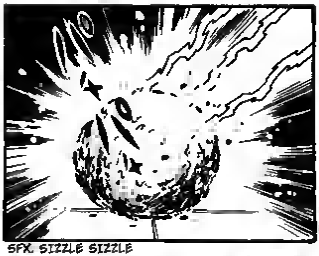
SFX. ZAP ZAP ZAP



SFX RATTLE RATTLE

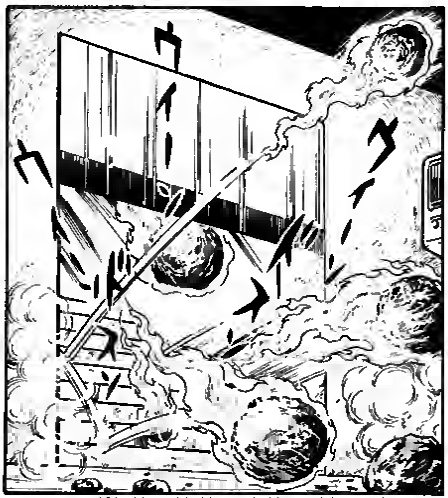


SFX. FRUSH FRUSH



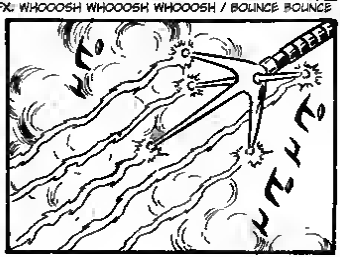
SFX. SIZZLE SIZZLE

SFX. SLAAAM!

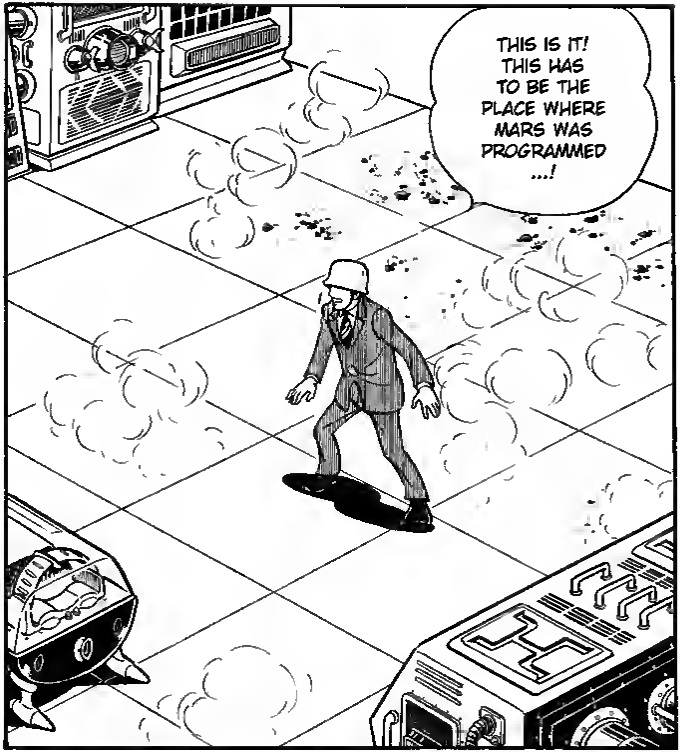


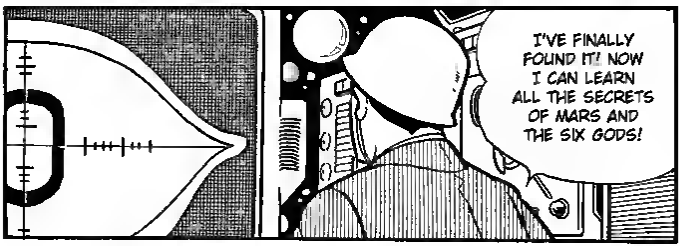
SFX. WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH / BOUNCE BOUNCE

SFX. FRUSH FRUSH

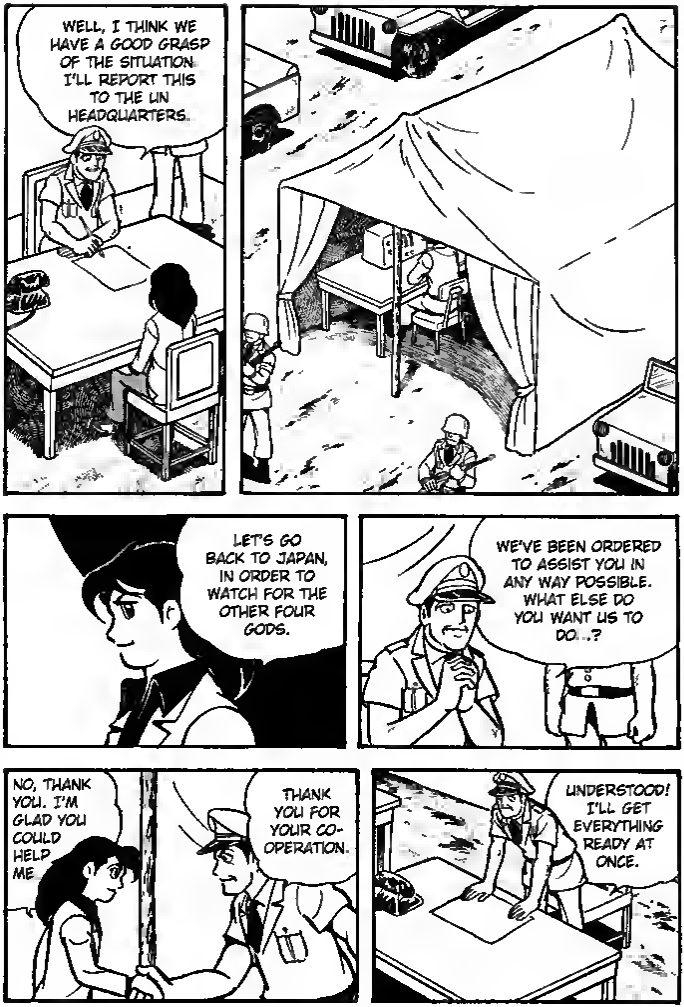


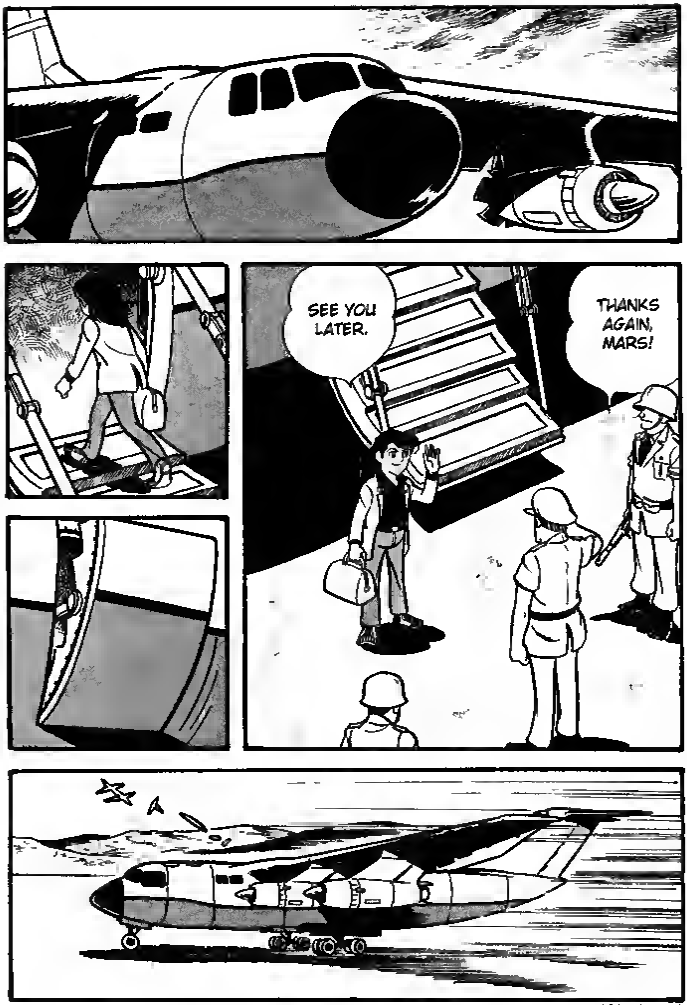
SFX. ZAP ZAP ZAP

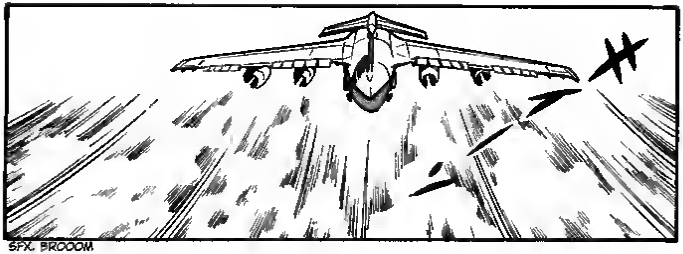

THIS IS IT! THIS HAS TO BE THE PLACE WHERE MARS WAS PROGRAMMED ...!


I'VE FINALLY FOUND IT! NOW I CAN LEARN ALL THE SECRETS OF MARS AND THE SIX GODS!

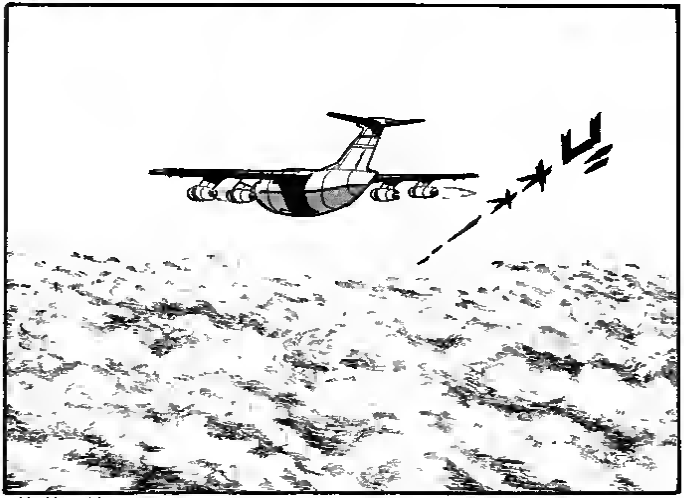
619
I KNEW THAT I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET HIM GO..
YES, SIR! THE ERUPTION WAS JUST TOO SEVERE. WE COULDN'T GO AND SAVE HIM.
WHAT!? IWAKURA FELL INTO A CHASM!?
SEND IN A RESCUE TEAM AS SOON AS THE ERUPTION IS OVER!
SFX. KA-BOOOOOM


WELL, I THINK WE HAVE A GOOD GRASP OF THE SITUATION. I'LL REPORT THIS TO THE UN HEADQUARTERS.
LET'S GO BACK TO JAPAN, IN ORDER TO WATCH FOR THE OTHER FOUR GODS.
WE'VE BEEN ORDERED TO ASSIST YOU IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE. WHAT ELSE DO YOU WANT US TO DO...?
NO, THANK YOU. I'M GLAD YOU COULD HELP ME.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.
UNDERSTOOD! I'LL GET EVERYTHING READY AT ONCE.


SEE YOU LATER.
THANKS AGAIN, MARS!
SFX. BROOOM



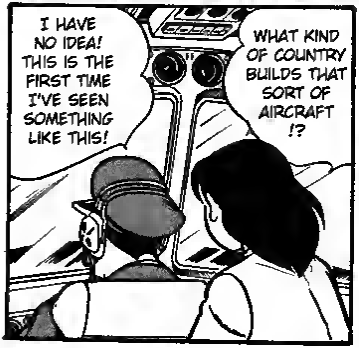
SFX: BROOOM

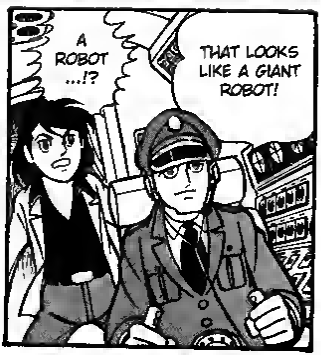


SFX WHOOOSH

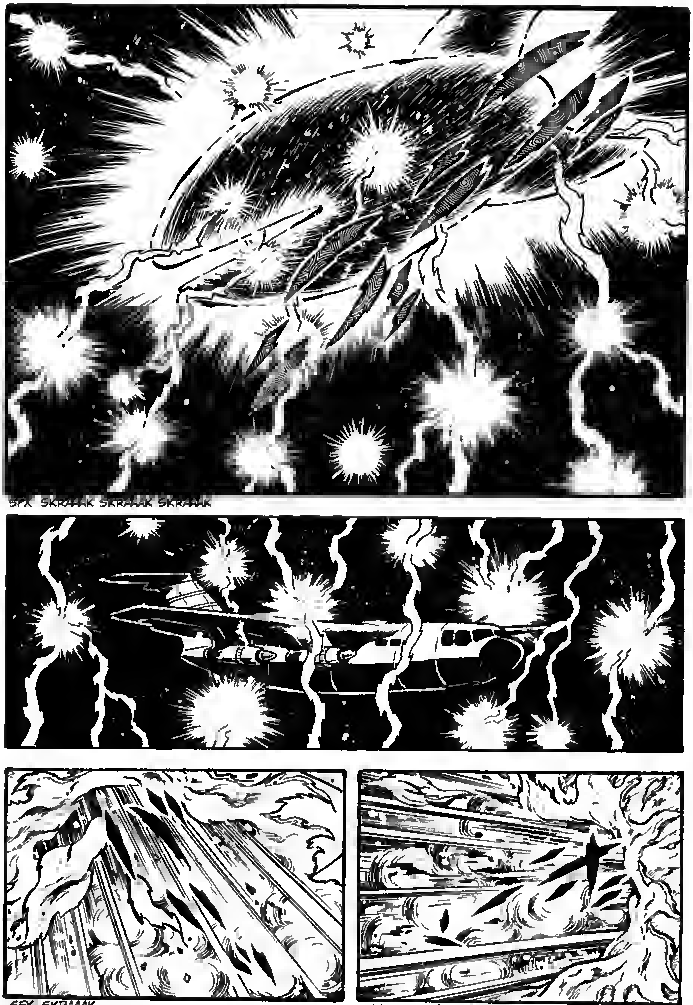
HMM ...!?
WHAT'S WRONG .?
CAPTAIN!
WHAT IS THAT!?
WHA-!?
SFX WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH

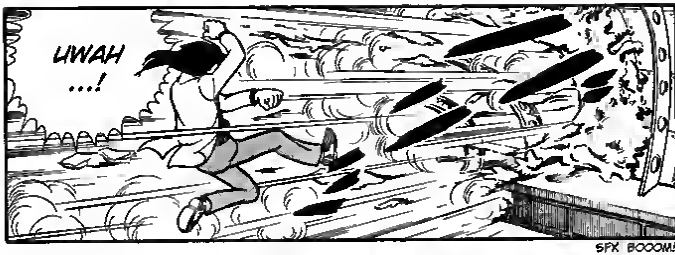
SFX WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH



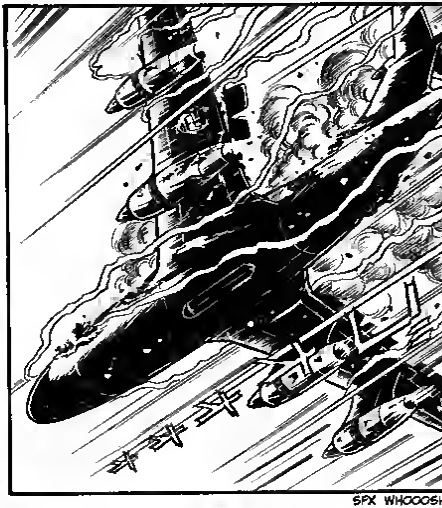


THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DEFEND AGAINST IT IF IT ATTACKS NOW!
ROGER THAT!
WE HAVE TO GET AWAY! IT COULD BE ONE OF THE FOUR GODS!
SFX: WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH


SFX. SKRAAAK SKRAAAK SKRAAAK
SFX. SKRAAAK
SFX. BOOOM!


UWAH ...!
SFX BOOOM!

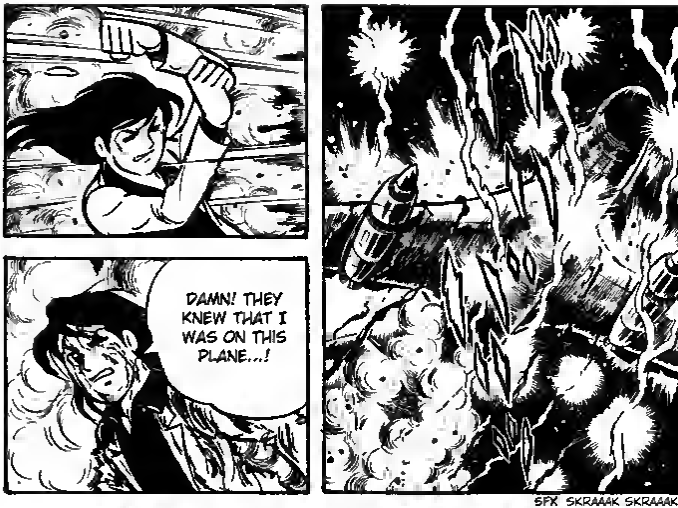
IT REALLY IS ONE OF THE GODS!

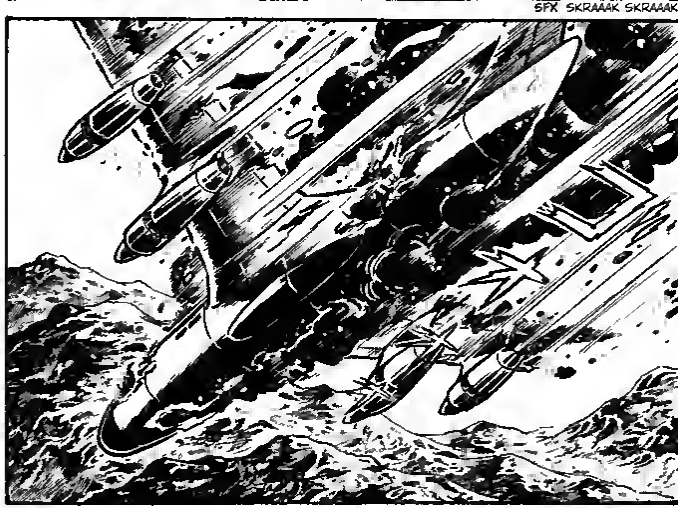

SFX WHOOOSH

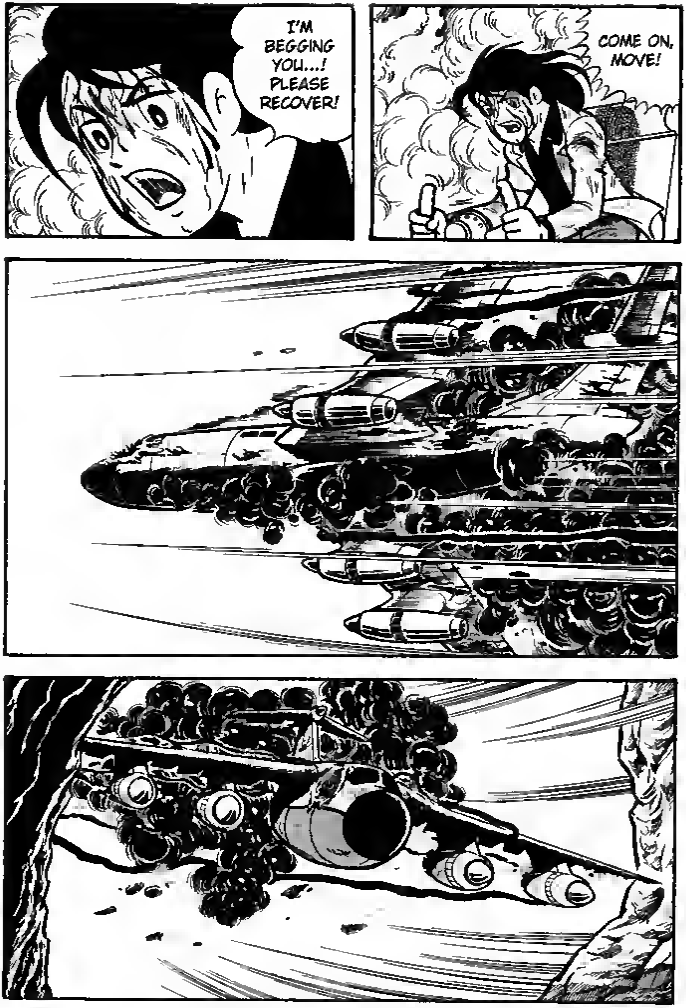
UH-!

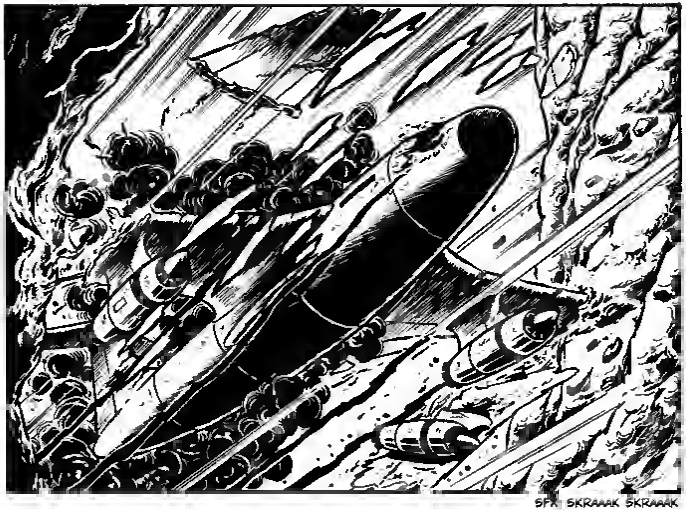
CAPTAIN, PLEASE GET THE PLANE BACK UNDER CONTROL!

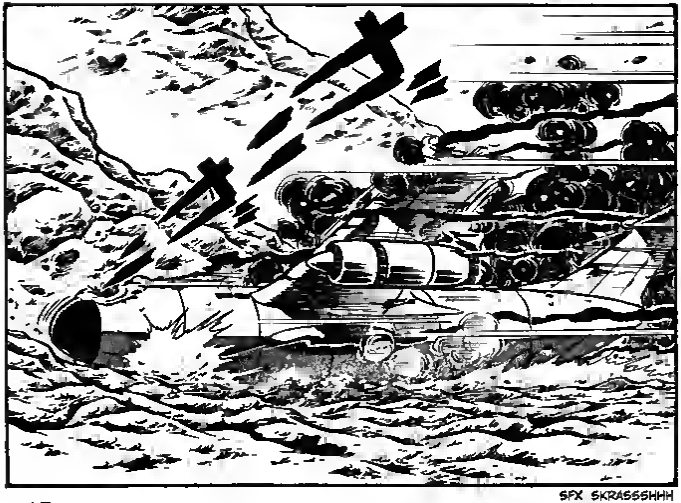
SFX BROOOM!
SFX SKRAAAK SKRAAAK


DAMN! THEY KNEW THAT I WAS ON THIS PLANE...!
SFX SKRAAAK SKRAAAK

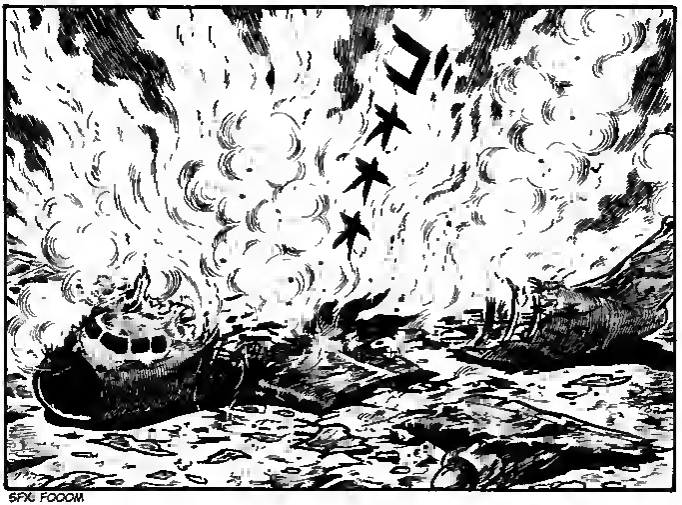

SFX WHOOOSH


I'M BEGGING YOU...! PLEASE RECOVER!
COME ON, MOVE!

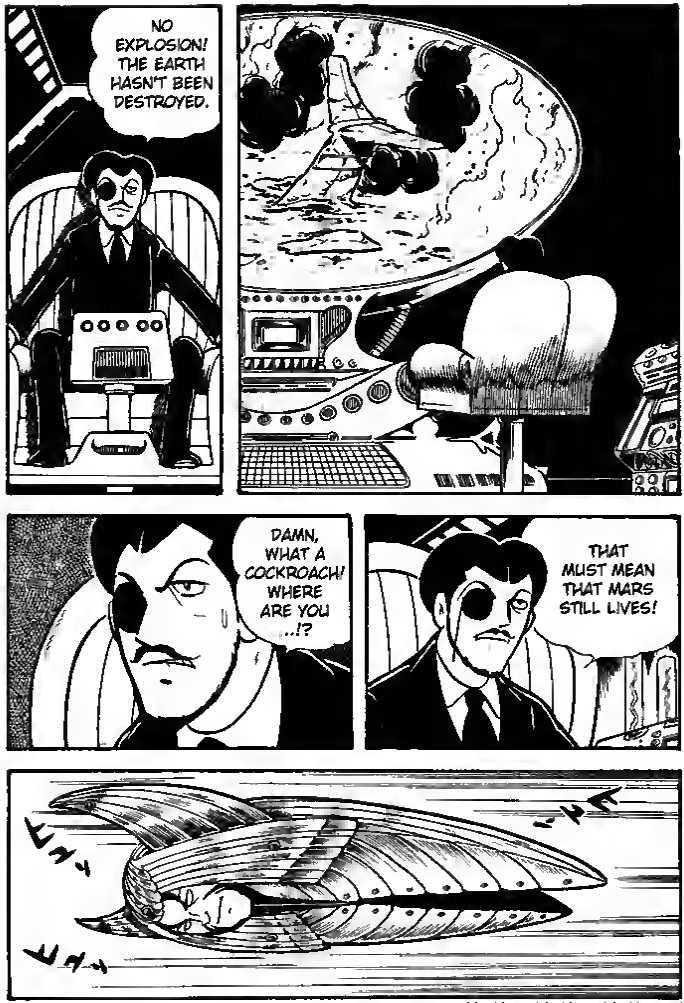

SFX: SKRAAAK SKRAAAK


SFX SKRASSSHHH

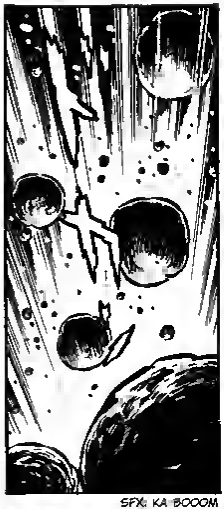
SFX KA-BOOOOOM!



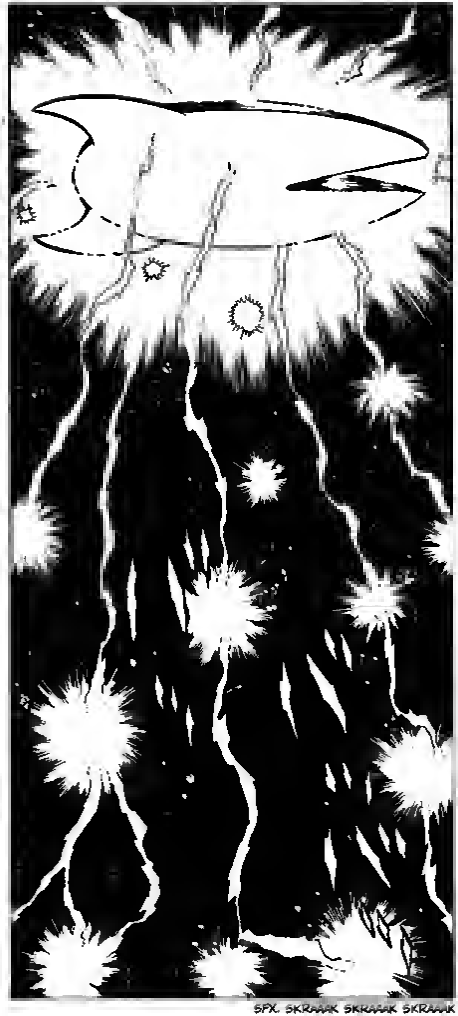
SFX FOOOM


NO EXPLOSION! THE EARTH HASN'T BEEN DESTROYED.
DAMN, WHAT A COCKROACH! WHERE ARE YOU ..!?
THAT MUST MEAN THAT MARS STILL LIVES!
SFX WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH

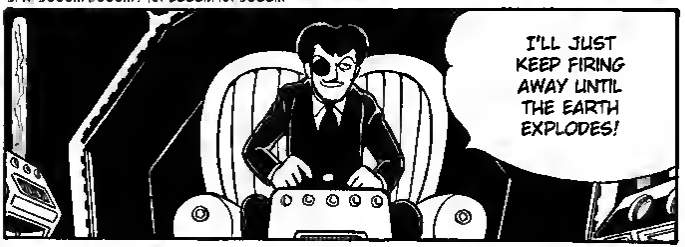
NO MATTER HOW FAST MARS IS, HE COULDN'T HAVE GONE TOO FAR!
FINE, I'LL JUST BOMB THE ENTIRE AREA!
SFX: CLICK!


SFX: KA BOOOM

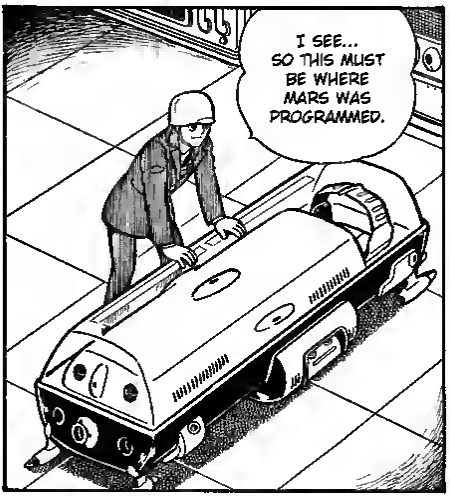
SFX. BOOOM!

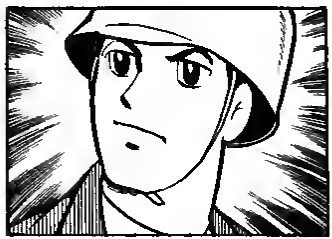

SFX. SKRAAAK SKRAAAK SKRAAAK

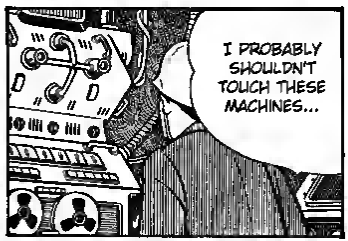
SFX: BOOOM BOOOM / KA-BOOOM KA-BOOOM

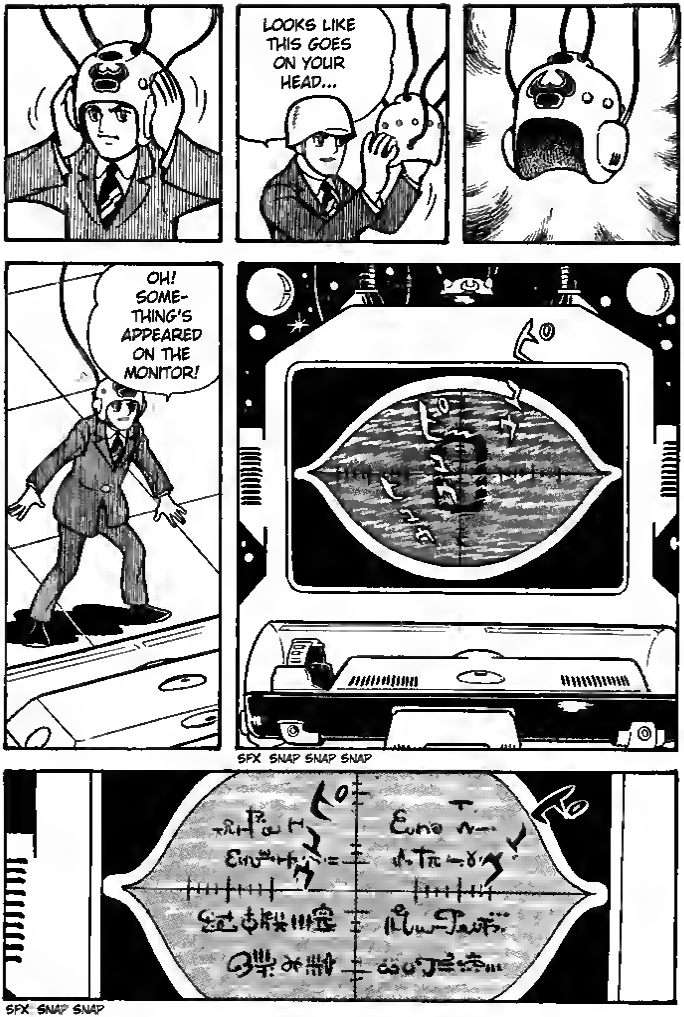


BUT... HOW AM I EVEN SUPPOSED TO INVESTIGATE THIS!? I CAN'T TELL LEFT FROM RIGHT IN HERE!

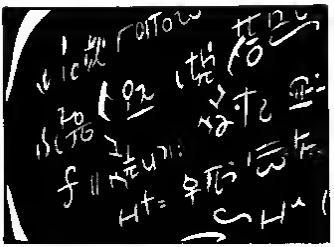

I SEE... SO THIS MUST BE WHERE MARS WAS PROGRAMMED.

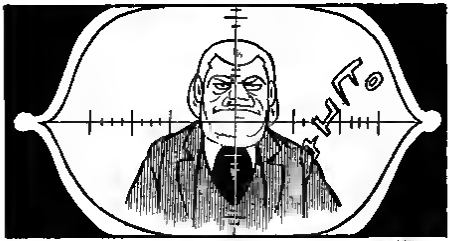


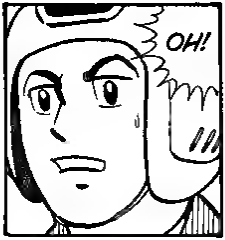

I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T TOUCH THESE MACHINES...


LOOKS LIKE THIS GOES ON YOUR HEAD...
OH! SOME-THING'S APPEARED ON THE MONITOR!
SFX SNAP SNAP SNAP
SFX SNAP SNAP

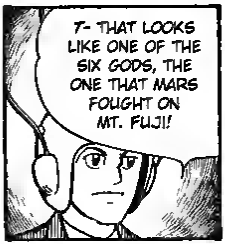
IT'S NO USE... I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THIS AT ALL!

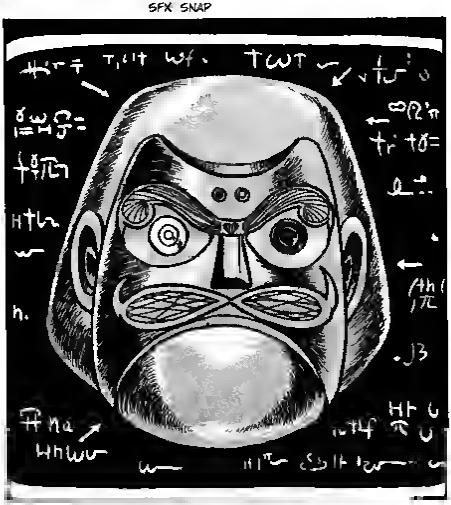


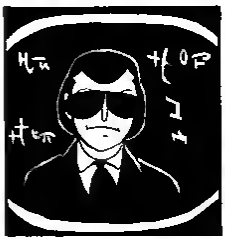


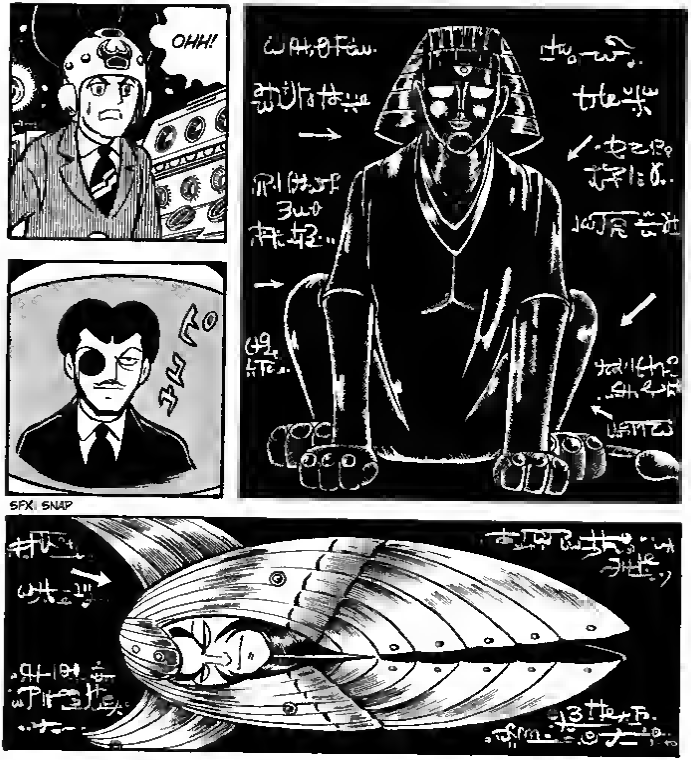

OH!

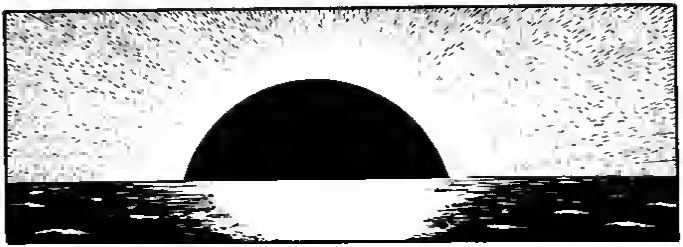
SFX SNAP

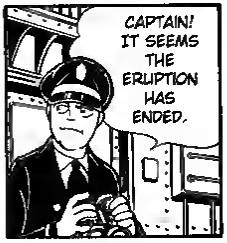

?- THAT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THE SIX GODS, THE ONE THAT MARS FOUGHT ON MT. FUJI!

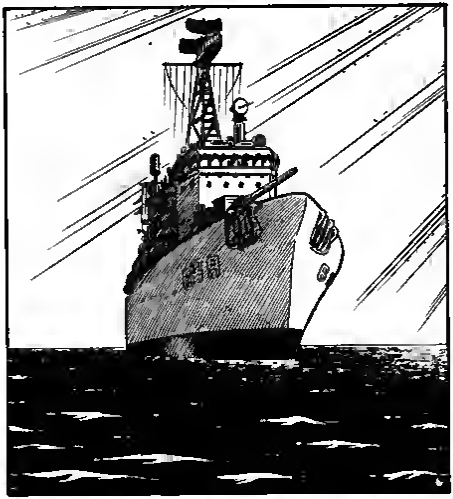





OHH!
SFX: SNAP
DAMN, IF ONLY I COULD READ THEIR WRITING!
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! THIS IS SHOWING IMAGES OF THE SIX GODS AND THEIR PILOTS...!

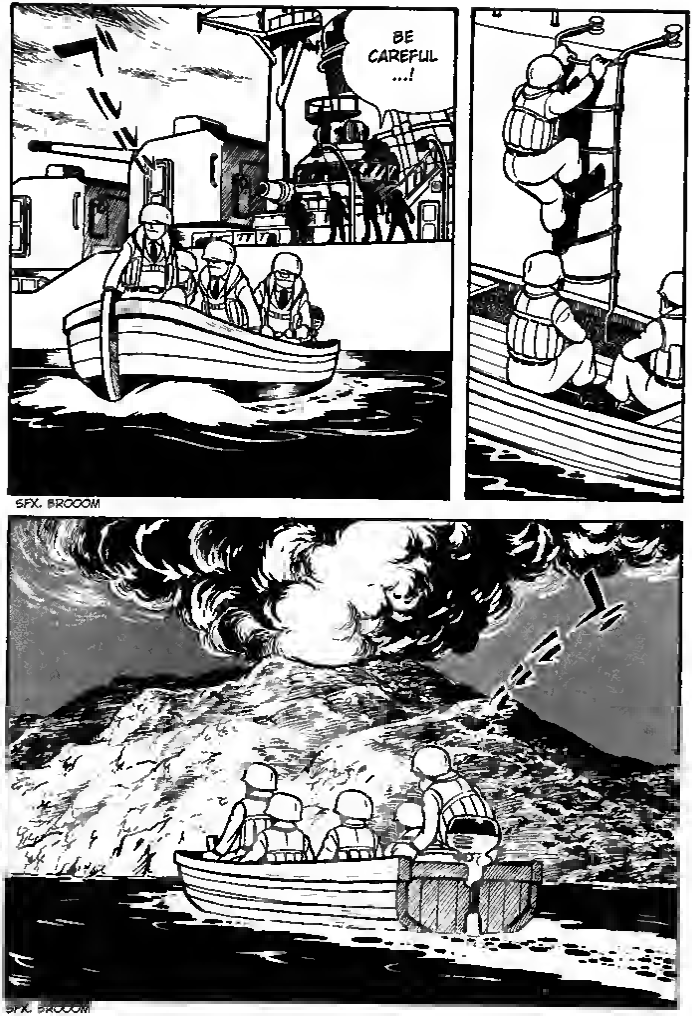



CAPTAIN! IT SEEMS THE ERUPTION HAS ENDED.



GOOD! SEND A RESCUE TEAM.

YES, SIR!
NOW LISTEN! LEAVE THE ISLAND AT THE FIRST SIGN OF DANGER.


BE CAREFUL ...!
SFX. BROOOM
SFX. BROOOM

SFX: BROOOM
WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM, EVEN IF IT'S JUST HIS CORPSE!
THERE'S NO WAY HE SURVIVED ...
IWAKURA DISAPPEARED FURTHER UP!

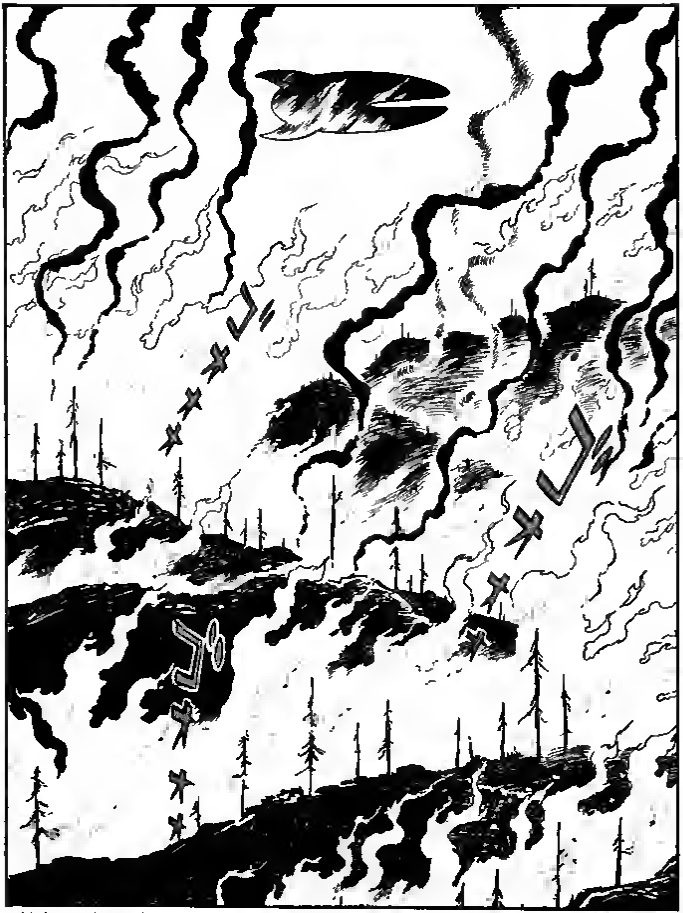
OH!

COULD THIS BE THE PLACE THAT IWAKURA WAS LOOKING FOR...!?
OH!
CAPTAIN, THERE'S A STAIRWAY!
ALRIGHT, LET'S TAKE A LOOK!
HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO OPEN IT!?
I'LL GIVE IT A TRY!
IT'S A DEAD END!

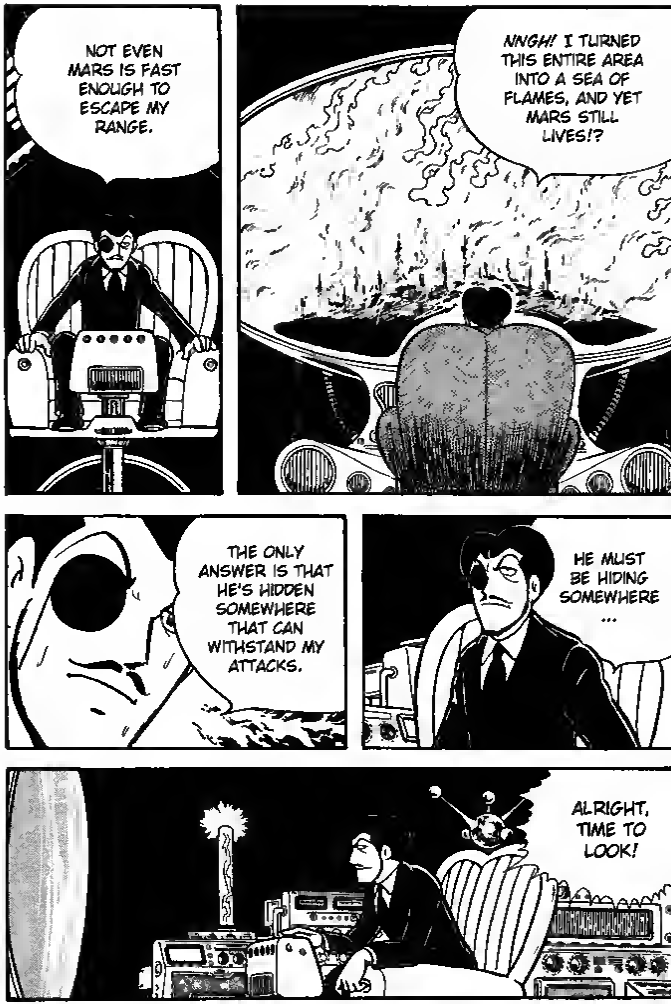
NOW THAT'S A SURPRISE! NOT EVEN A SCRATCH ...!
SFX: BANG BANG
HUH !?
BUT IT'S HOLLOW ON THE OTHER SIDE! YOU CAN TELL BY THE SOUND IT MAKES.
SFX: TAP TAP TAP
SOMEONE'S KNOCKING ON THE DOOR...!
SFX: TAP TAP TAP

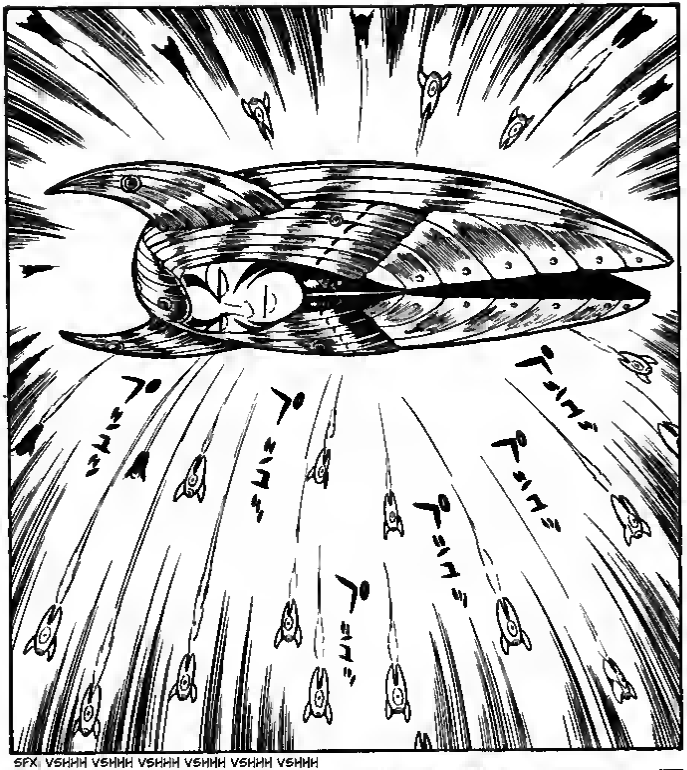
WHAT !?
SFX TAP TAP TAP
SFX TAP TAP TAP
THIS COULD MEAN THAT IWAKURA IS STILL ALIVE!
CAPTAIN! I JUST HEARD SOMETHING!
YOU'RE RIGHT...
ALRIGHT, LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE SHIP!
SFX TAP TAP TAP
WE CAN'T SAVE HIM WITHOUT ANY TOOLS!

BATTLE IN THE UNDERGROUND LAKE

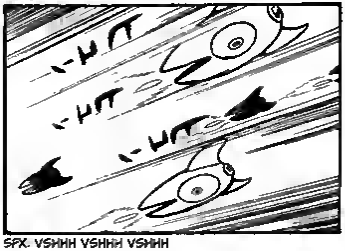


SFX. FOOOM FOOOM FOOOM

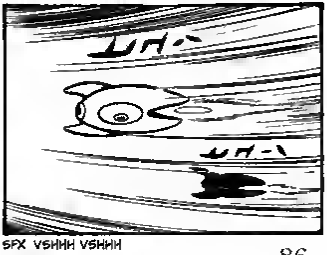

NOT EVEN MARS IS FAST ENOUGH TO ESCAPE MY RANGE.
NNGH! I TURNED THIS ENTIRE AREA INTO A SEA OF FLAMES, AND YET MARS STILL LIVES!?
THE ONLY ANSWER IS THAT HE'S HIDDEN SOMEWHERE THAT CAN WITHSTAND MY ATTACKS.
HE MUST BE HIDING SOMEWHERE ...
ALRIGHT, TIME TO LOOK!



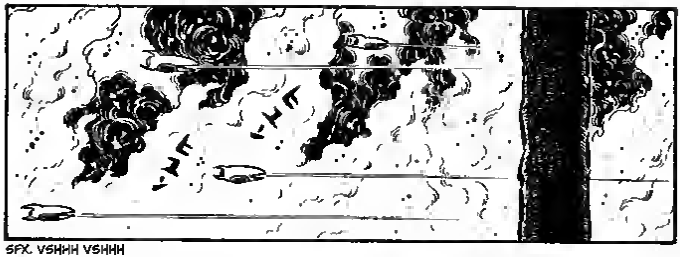
SFX: VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH



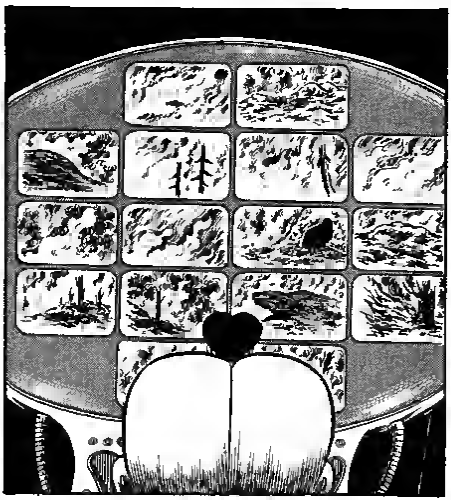
SFX: VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH



SFX: VSHHH VSHHH

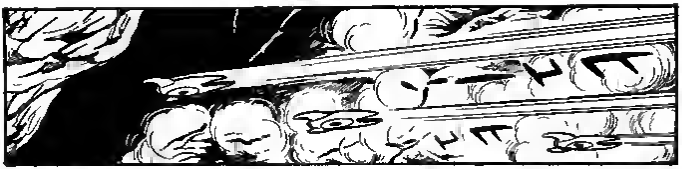

SFX. VSHHH VSHHH

HM?



SEARCH INSIDE THAT CAVE...!

THERE'S A CAVE OVER THERE!



SFX. VSHHH VSHHH

SFX. VSHHH VSHHH

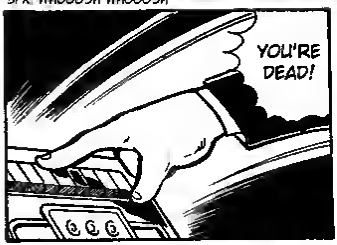
HE SEEMS TO BE FAIRLY EXHAUSTED ...
THERE YOU ARE, I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU!
ALRIGHT! THIS TIME I'LL PUT AN END TO HIS LIFE ...!

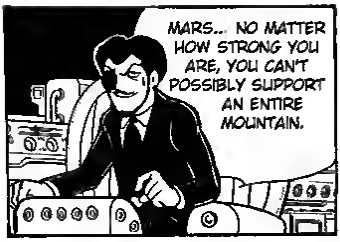
SFX VSHHH
UH!?
WHERE... WHERE AM I!?

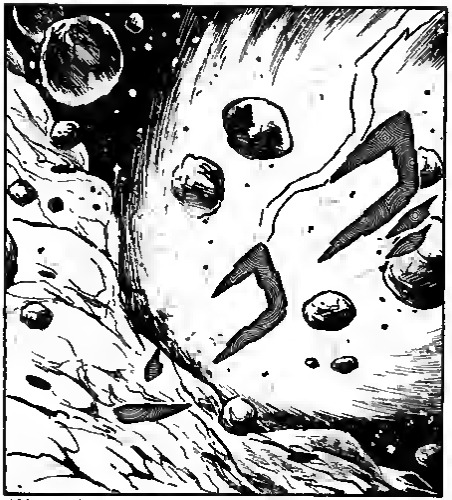
SFX. ZOOM ZOOM
THEY'RE CAMERAS!
SFX SKRAAASH
SFX. CRAAACK
THIS ISN'T GOOD... I'VE BEEN DISCOVERED.
I'VE GOT TO ELUDE THEM UNTIL GAIA CAN GET HERE.

WHAT ...!?
HAA... HAAA... HAA...
HMM !?
IT'S A DEAD END...!

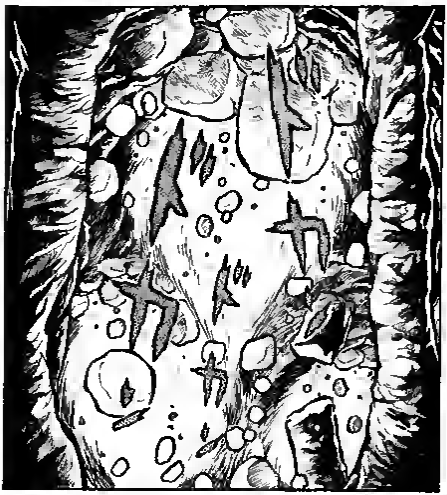
SFX: WHOOOSH WHOOOSH







SFX BOOOM



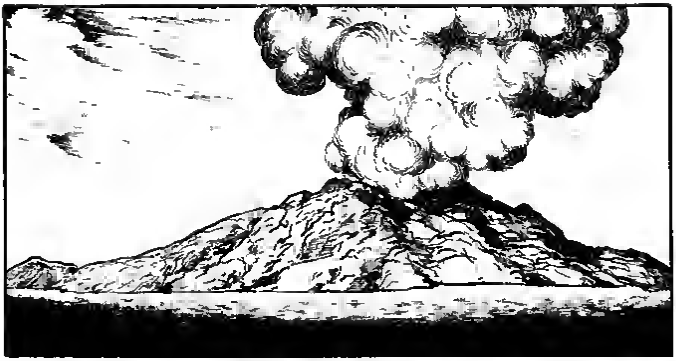
SFX CRAAACK CRAAACK CRAAACK

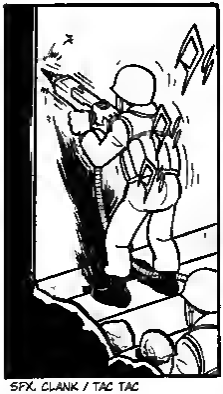
SFX SKRAAAK SKRAAAK

SFX: RUSTLE RUSTLE / KA-DOOOOOM

SFX: RRRRUMBLE / KA-BOOOOOM

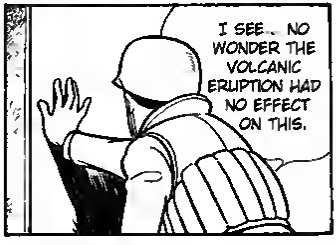
NO EXPLOSION ...!
...
NOT EVEN MARS COULD SURVIVE A MOUNTAIN COLLAPSING UPON HIM!
WHY HASN'T GAIA DETONATED!? WHY...!?
FIND HIM! YOU MUST FIND HIM!!
SFX. VSHHH VSHHH

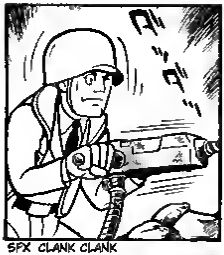




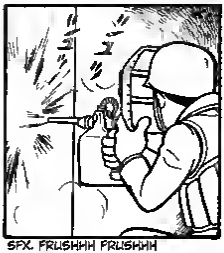
SFX. CLANK / TAC TAC

SFX. CLANK CLANK CLANK CLANK CLANK CLANK

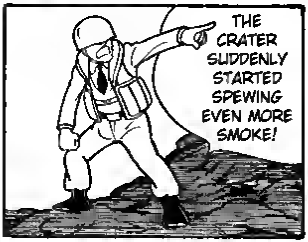


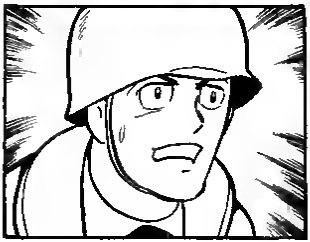


SFX. CLANK CLANK

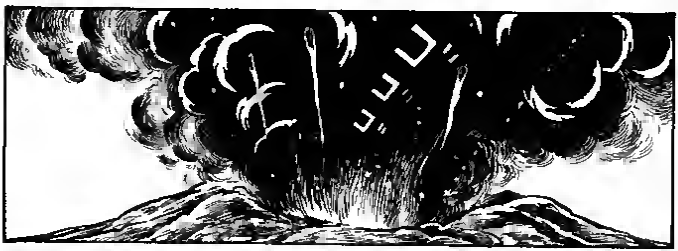


SFX. FRUSHHH FRUSHHH





YOU'RE RIGHT. THERE'S FAR MORE NOW.
THE GROUND IS TREMBLING, TOO!
THE VOLCANO MAY ERUPT AGAIN. LET'S STOP OUR WORK FOR NOW.
BACK TO THE SHIP ...!

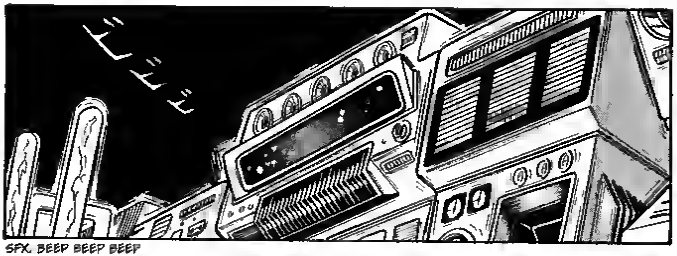


SFX RRRUMBLE

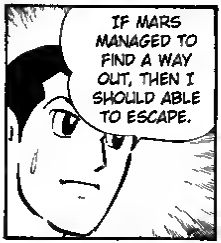
SFX. KA-BOOOM

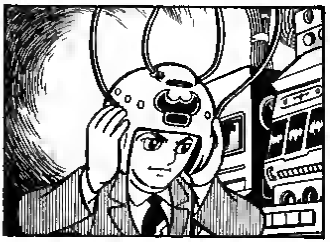
SFX: RRRUMBLE

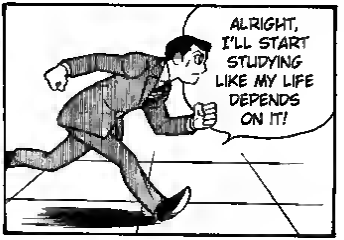
SFX: BOUNCE BOUNCE

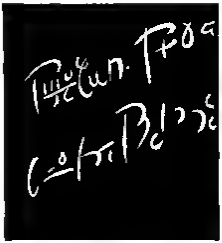


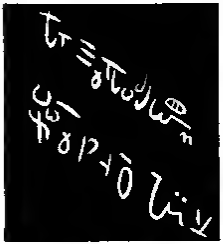
SFX. BEEP BEEP BEEP

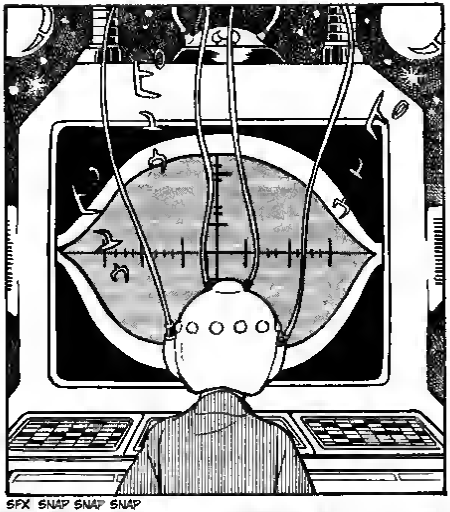




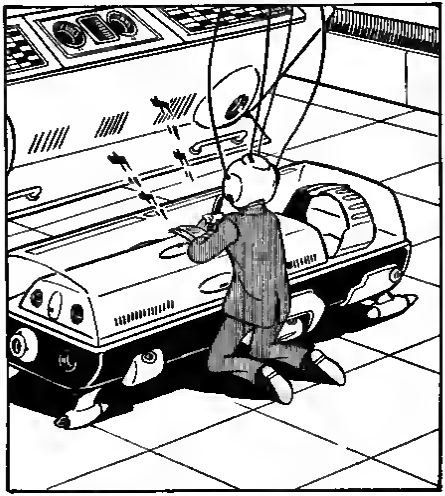




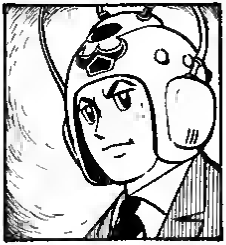


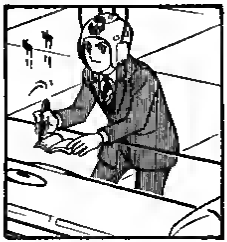


SFX SNAP SNAP SNAP

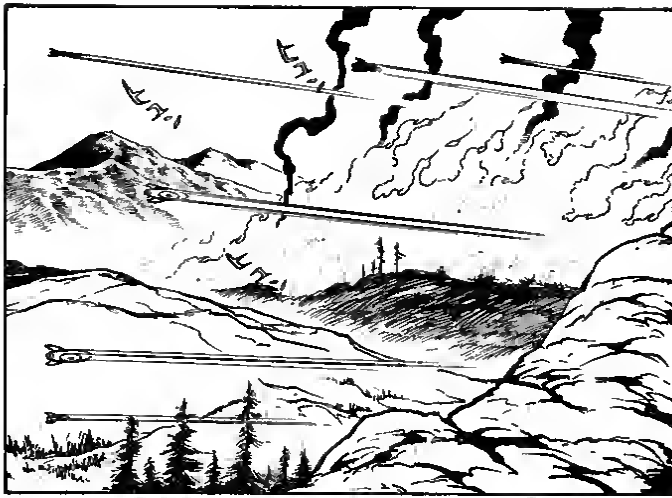


SFX. SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE

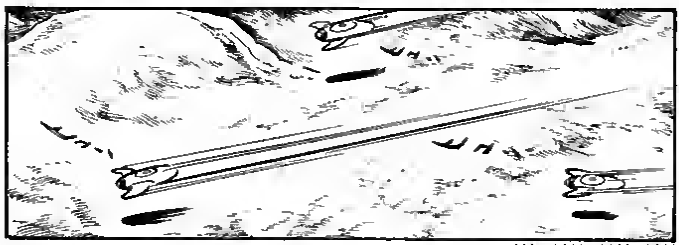




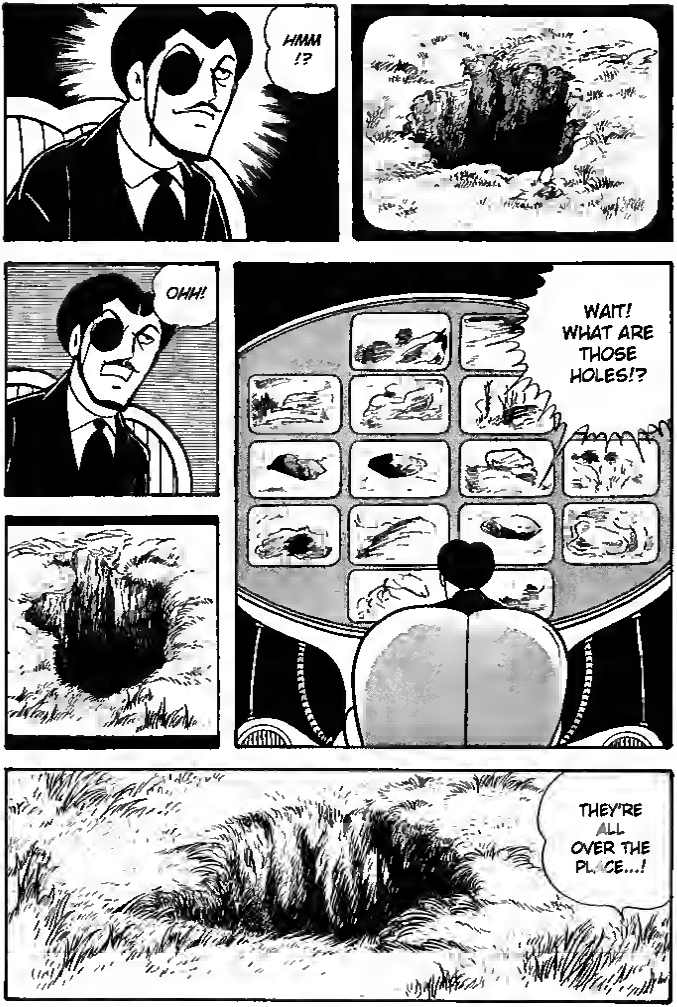
SFX. SCRIBBLE

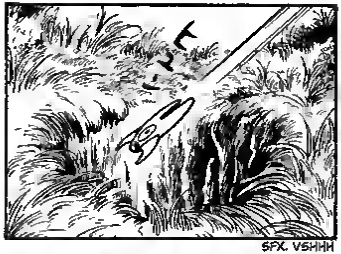


SFX: VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH

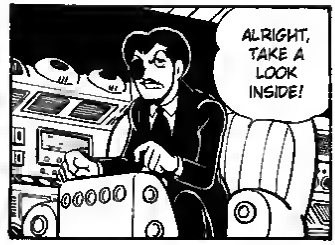


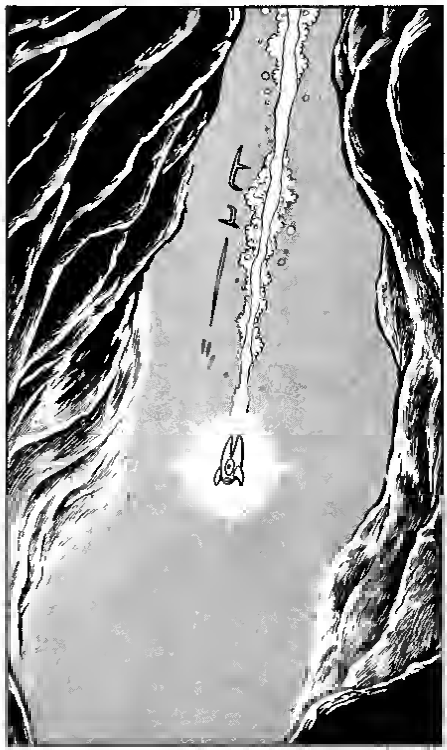
SFX: VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH


HMM !?
OHH!
WAIT! WHAT ARE THOSE HOLES!?
THEY'RE ALL OVER THE PLACE...!



SFX. VSHHH



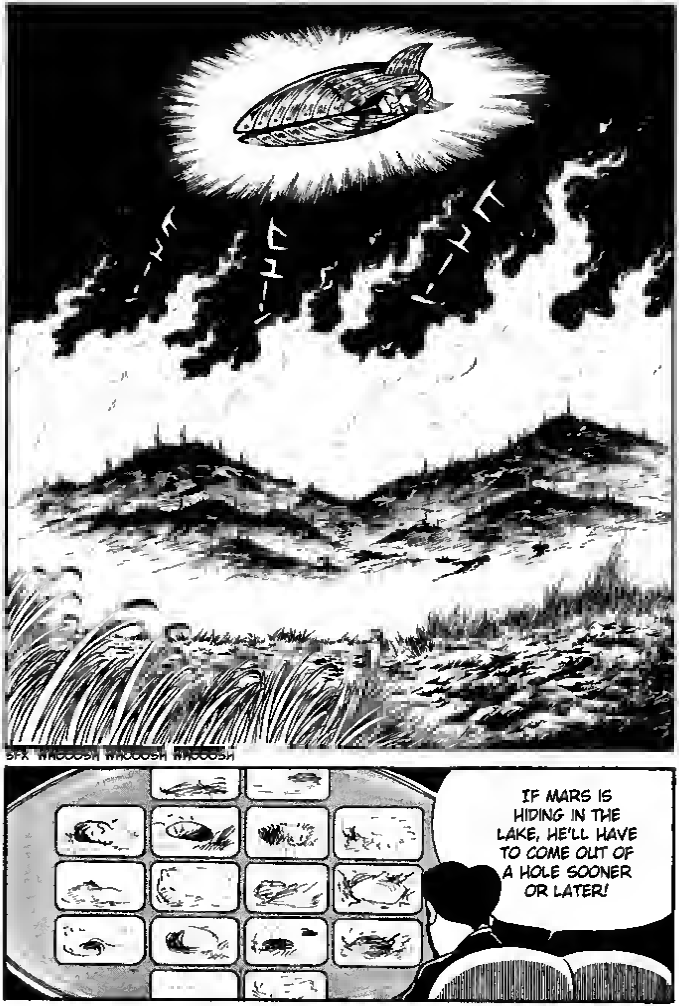


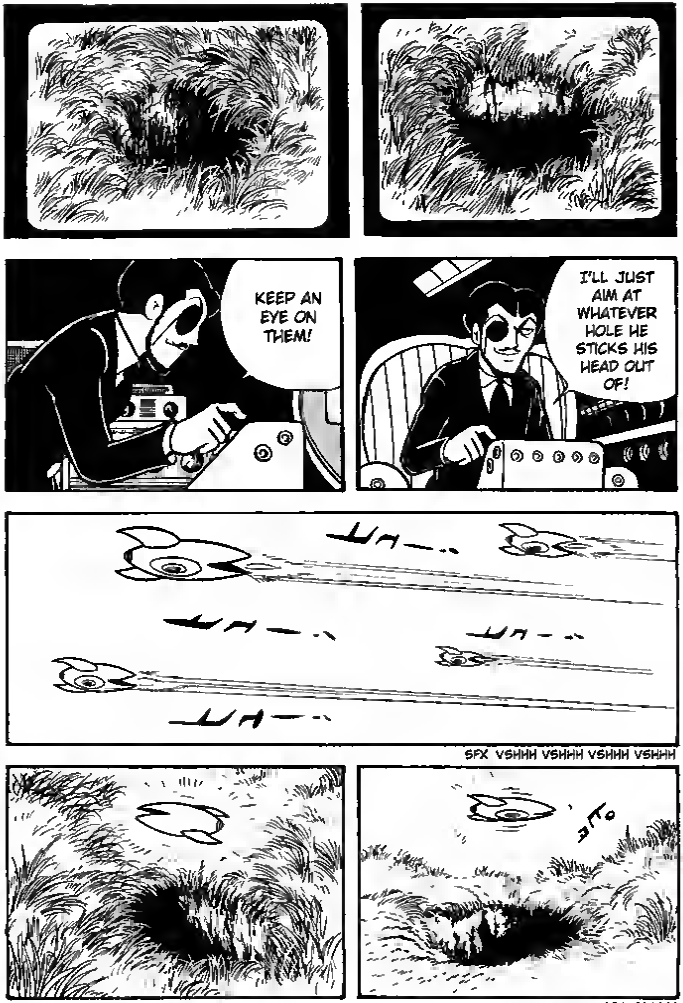
SFX. VSHHH

SFX. SPLAAASH

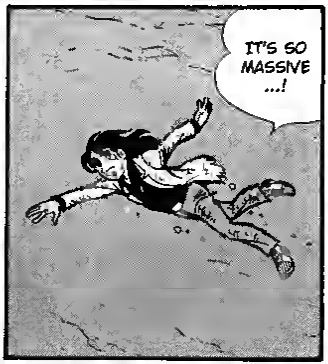
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A LINK BETWEEN THE LAKE AND THE CAVE.
I SEE. SO MARS ESCAPED INTO THIS LAKE.
TH- THIS IS AN UNDER-GROUND LAKE!
IT'S HOPELESS! IT'S ALL COVERED BY GROUND...
I NEVER IMAGINED THERE'D BE SUCH A HUGE UNDERGROUND LAKE HERE.

AM I JUST GOING TO KEEP WANDERING IN THIS UNDER-GROUND LAKE?

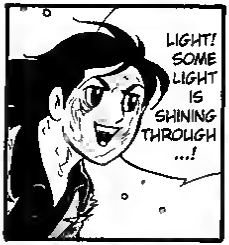

SFX WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH
IF MARS IS HIDING IN THE LAKE, HE'LL HAVE TO COME OUT OF A HOLE SOONER OR LATER!


KEEP AN EYE ON THEM!
I'LL JUST AIM AT WHATEVER HOLE HE STICKS HIS HEAD OUT OF!
SFX VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH
SFX. FREEZE

BUT ARE THERE ANY EXITS?


IT'S SO MASSIVE ...!

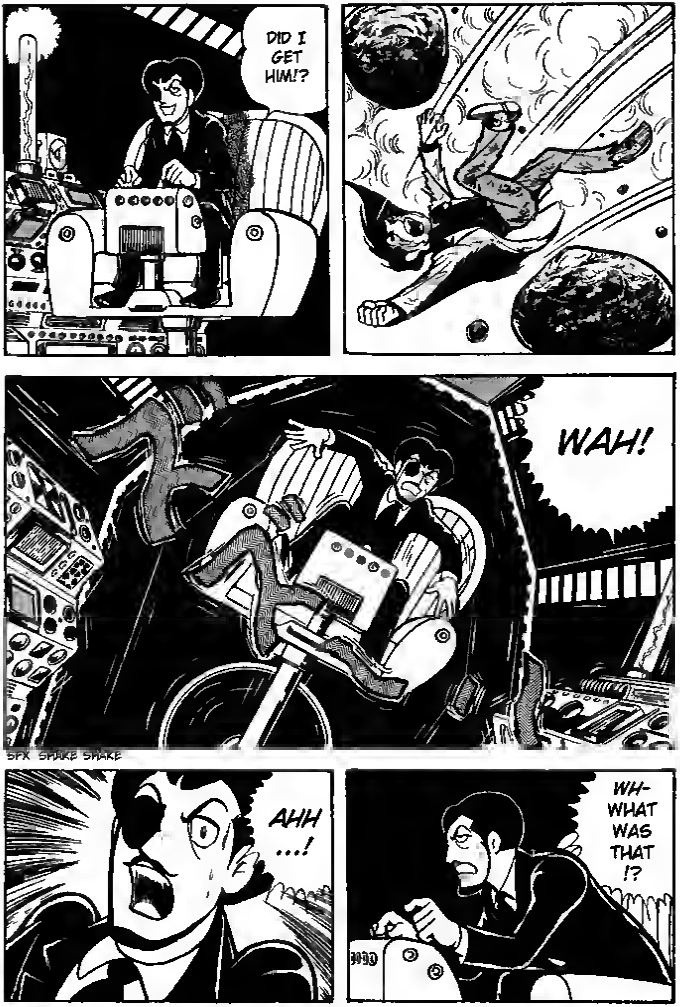
OH!

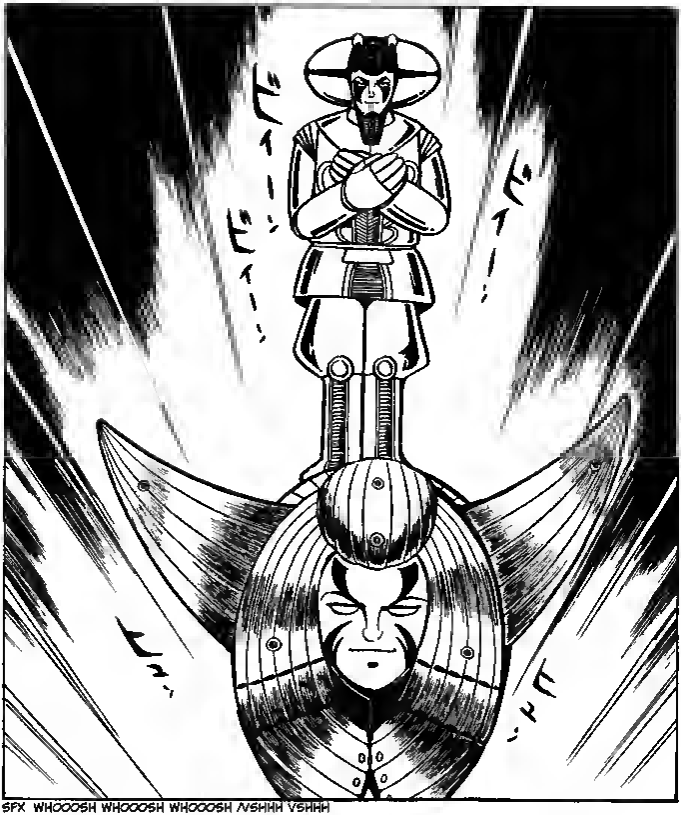

LIGHT! SOME LIGHT IS SHINING THROUGH ...!

I'VE FINALLY FOUND AN EXIT!

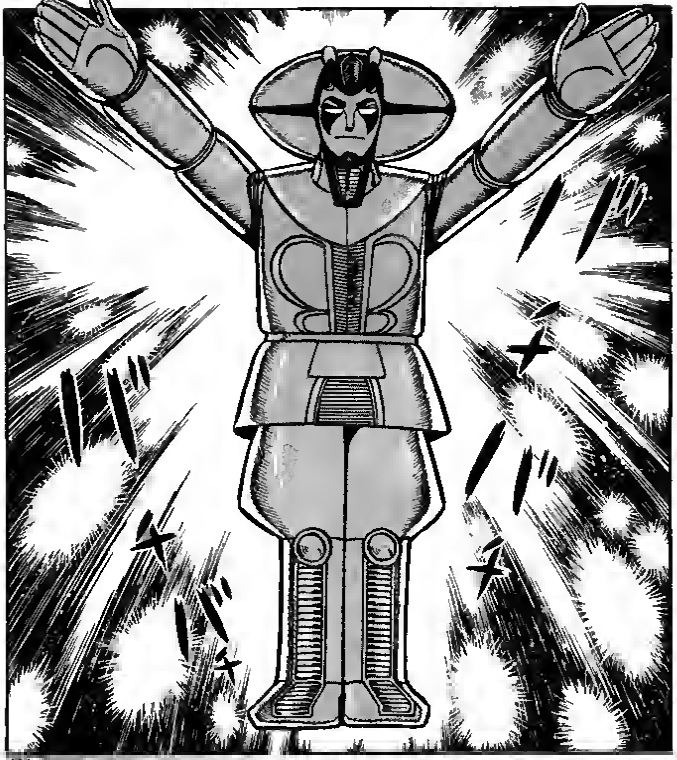
THERE HE IS!
SFX SFLAAASH
NOW DIE!
SFX: SKRAAAK SKRAAAK

SFX. SKRAAAK SKRAAAK / KA-BOOOOOM!

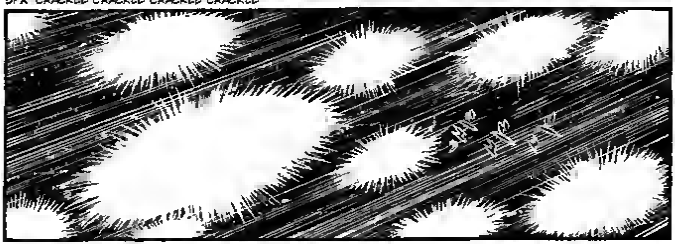

DID I GET HIM!?
WAH!
SFX SHAKE SHAKE
AHH ...!
WH-WHAT WAS THAT !?


SFX WHOOOSH WHOOOSH WHOOOSH VSHHH VSHHH

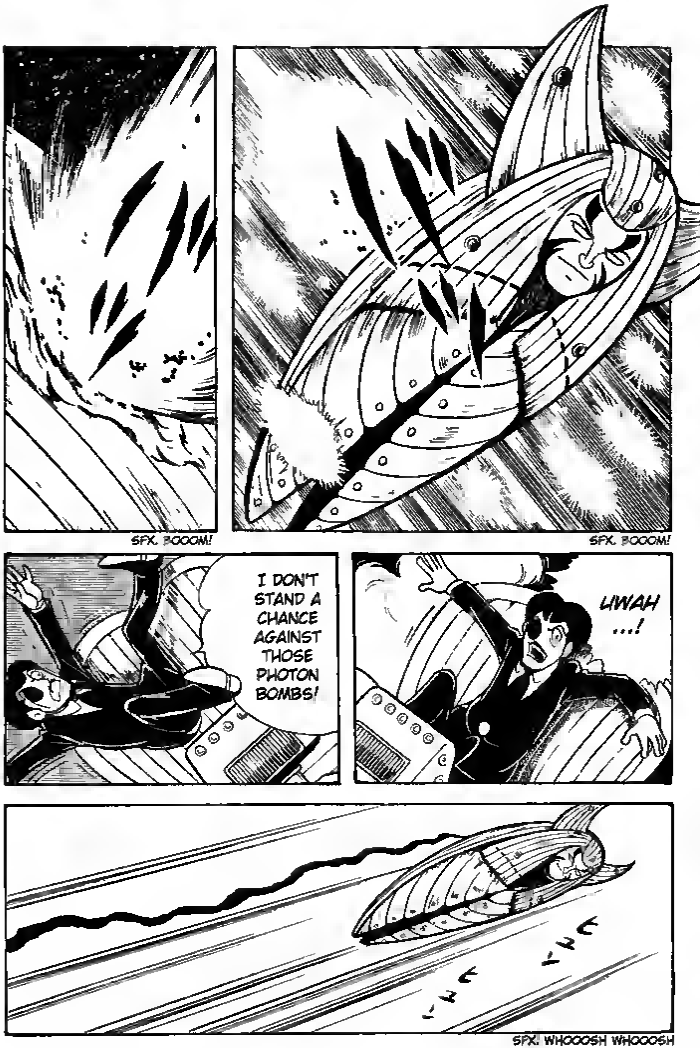
HOW DID GAIA GET HERE!?

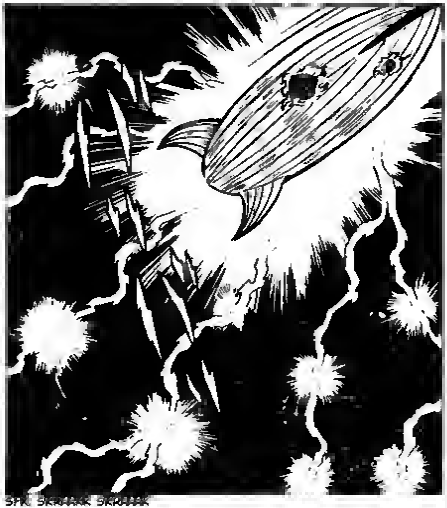


SFX. CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE



SFX. SHOOOM SHOOOM SHOOOM

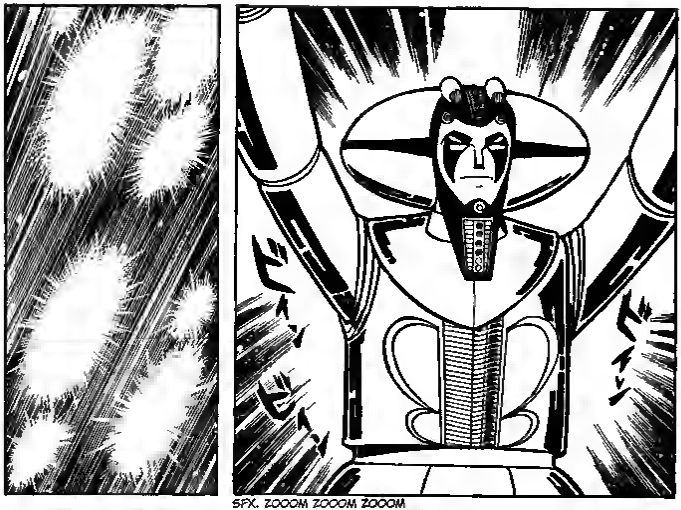

SFX. BOOOM!
SFX. BOOOM!
I DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST THOSE PHOTON BOMBS!
UWAH ...!
SFX. WHOOOSH WHOOOSH

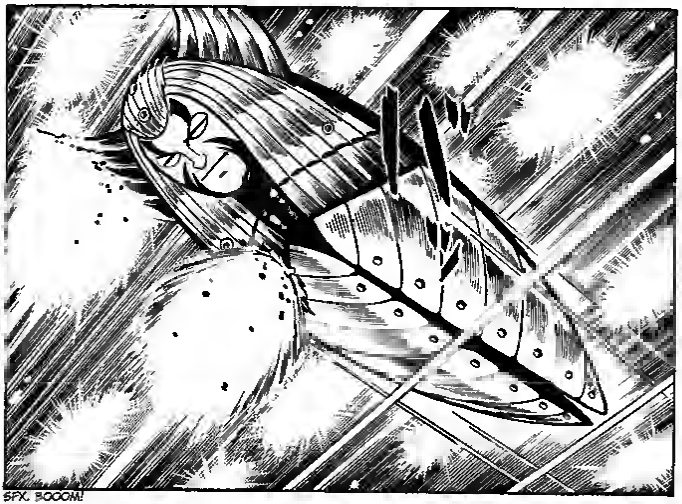

SFX: SKRAAK SKRAAK

SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE

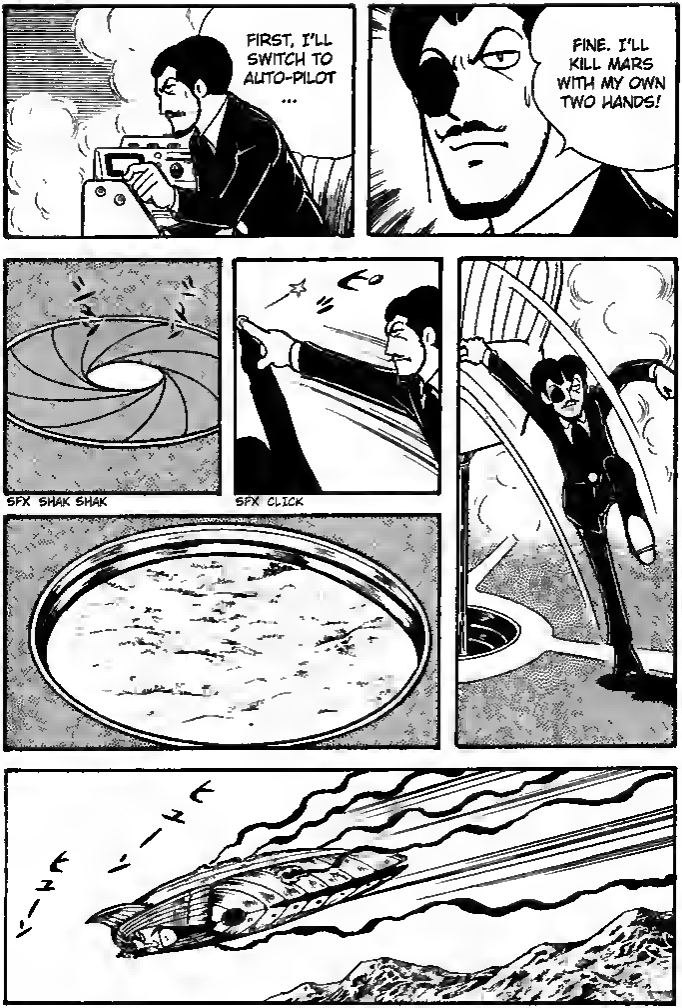
SFX: VSHHH VSHHH

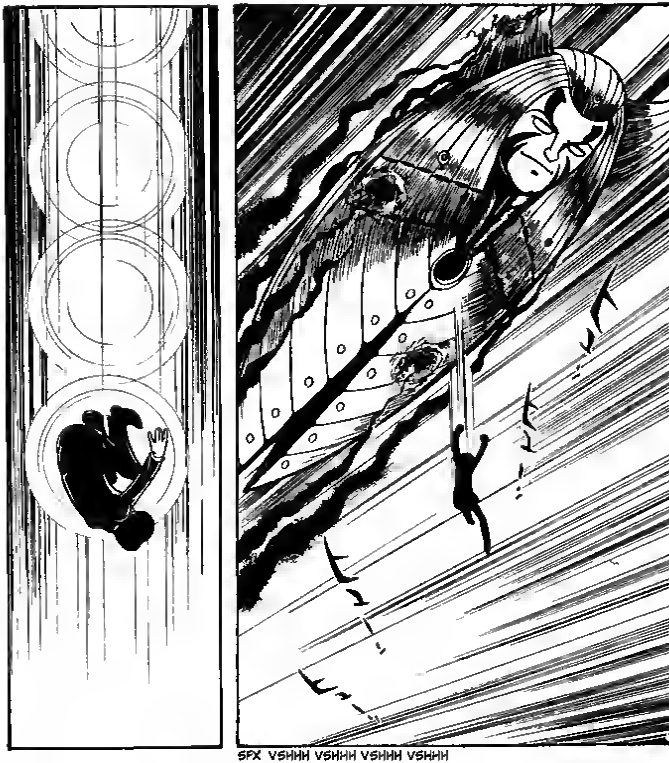
SPK SKRRRRK SKRRUUK SKRRUUK SKRRRRK
IT'S HOPELESS! MY ELECTRIC BOMBS THAT CAN MELT STEEL ARE USELESS AGAINST GAIA!


SFX. ZOOOM ZOOOM ZOOOM

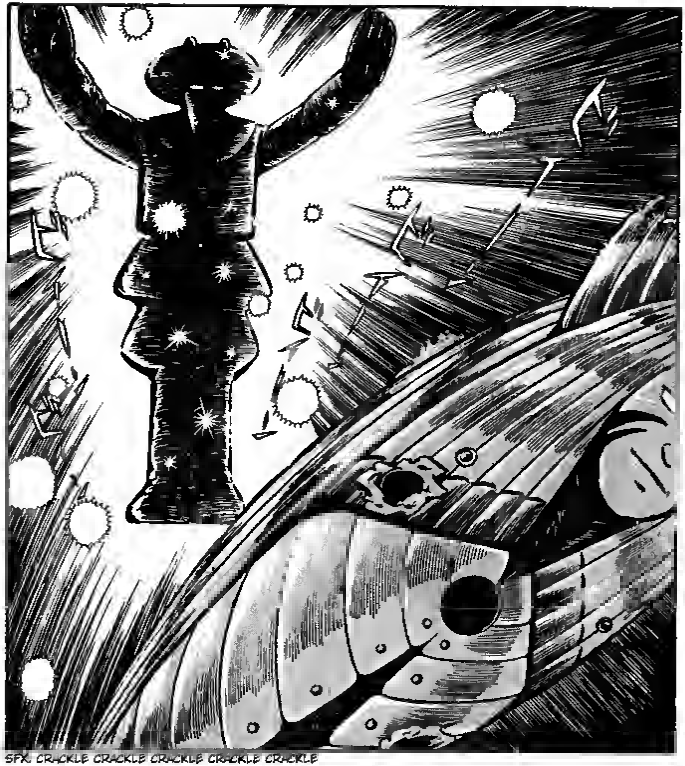

SFX. BOOOM!

SFX BZZZT!
SFX. BOOOM!
AND ONCE I LOSE POWER, GAIA'S MAGNETIC FORCE WILL KICK IN...
THIS IS BAD! I'M LIKE A RAT BEING TOYED WITH BY A CAT!
SFX BZZZT!
I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING BEFORE THAT HAPPENS...
AND THEN IT'LL BE ALL OVER ...!

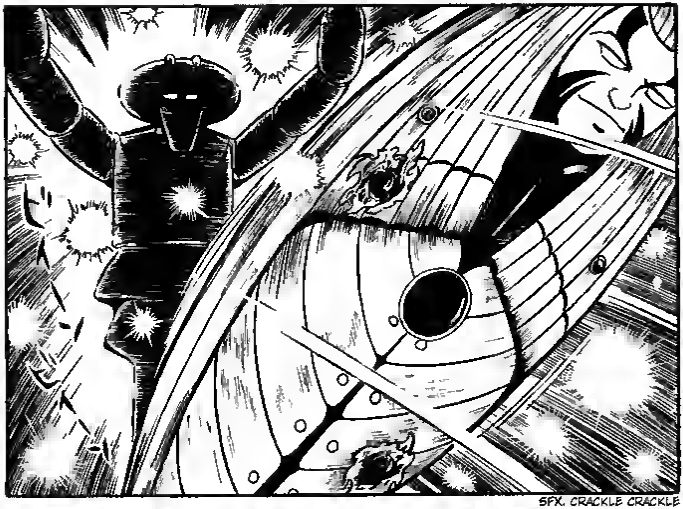

FIRST, I'LL SWITCH TO AUTO-PILOT ...
FINE. I'LL KILL MARS WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS!
SFX SHAK SHAK
SFX CLICK
SFX. VSHHH VSHHH

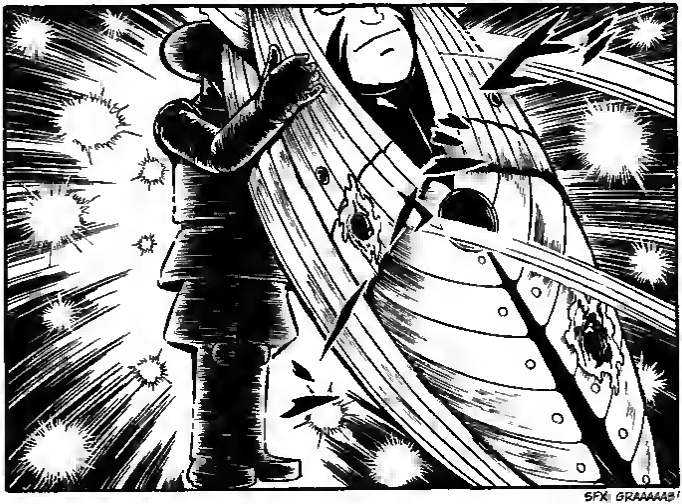

SFX VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH

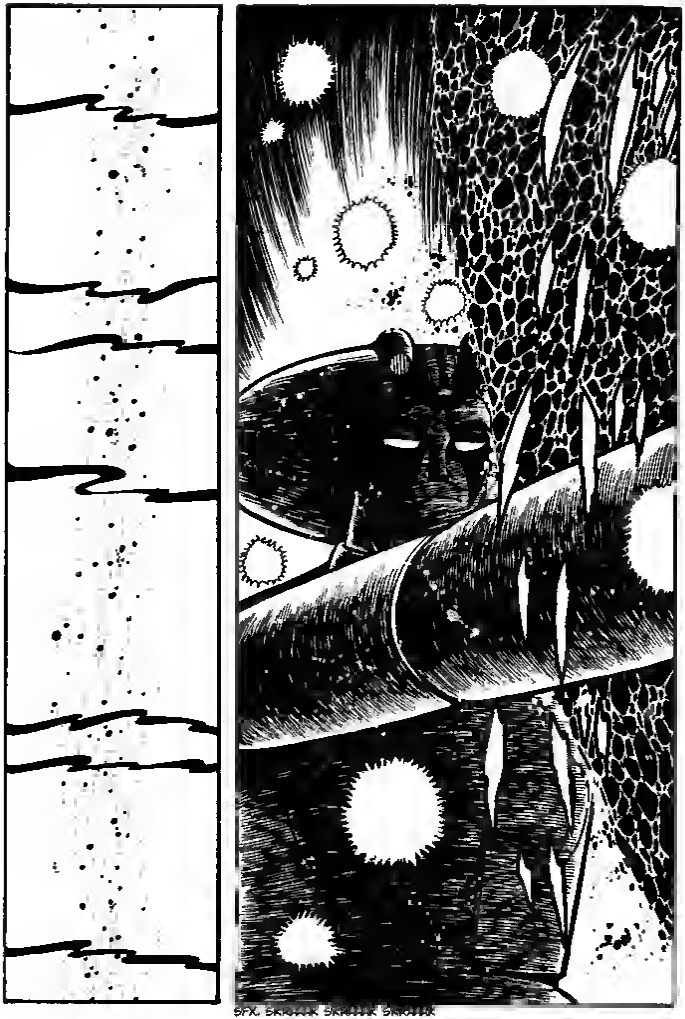
SFX. STOMP!

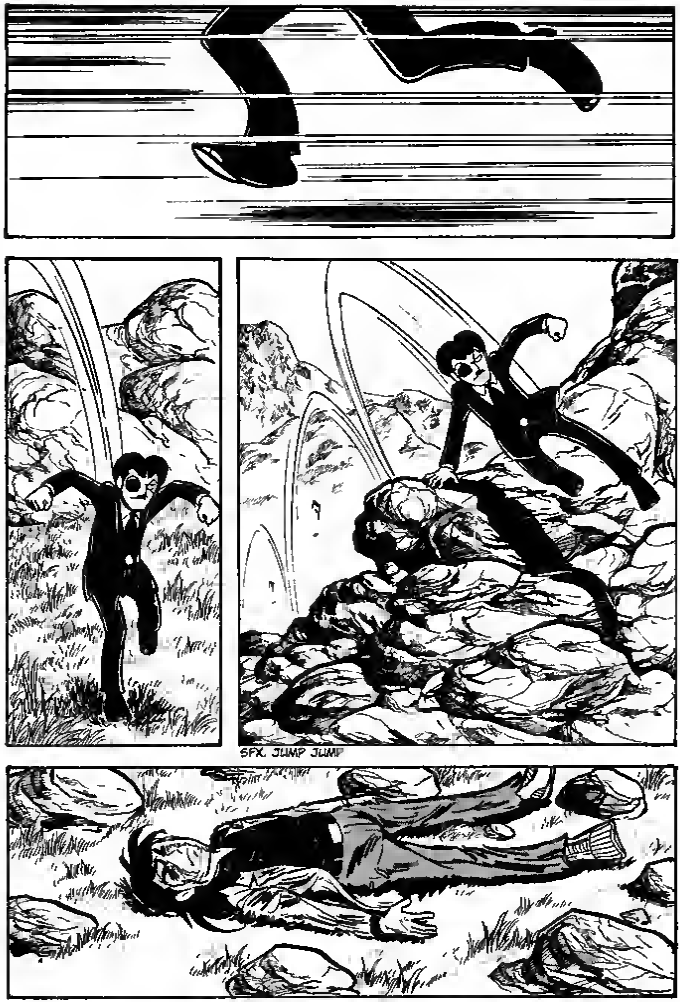

SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE

THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! GAIA'S ALREADY PULLING IT IN!


SFX. CRACKLE CRACKLE


SFX: GRAAAAAB!


SFX: SKRRRK SKRRRK SKRRRK


SFX. JUMP JUMP

MARS... FORGIVE ME, BUT I MUST COMPLETE MY DUTY!
SFX. BZZZT!

SFX. SLAAAM!

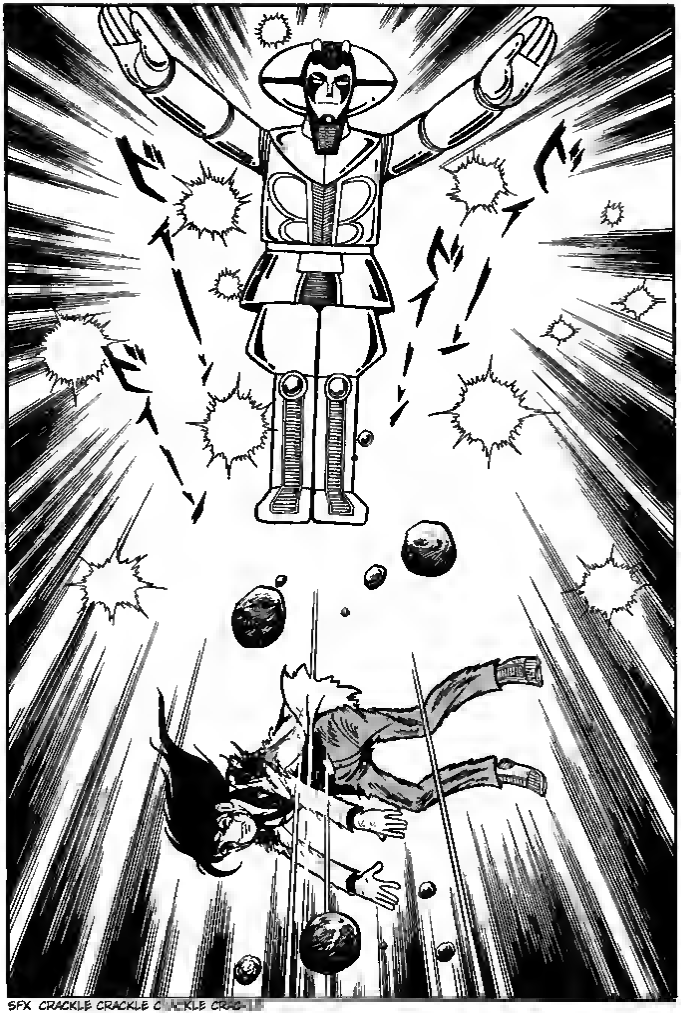
DAMN IT...!

SFX. BZZZT!

YOU'RE STILL ALIVE? HOW PERSISTENT ...!

HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
MARS! THIS TIME YOU'RE DONE FOR!
SFX: BZZZT!

SFX: BOOOM!
THERE'S NO SIGN OF MARS ...
?
HUH ....?
OHH!


SFX CRACKLE CRACKLE C KLE CRAC-

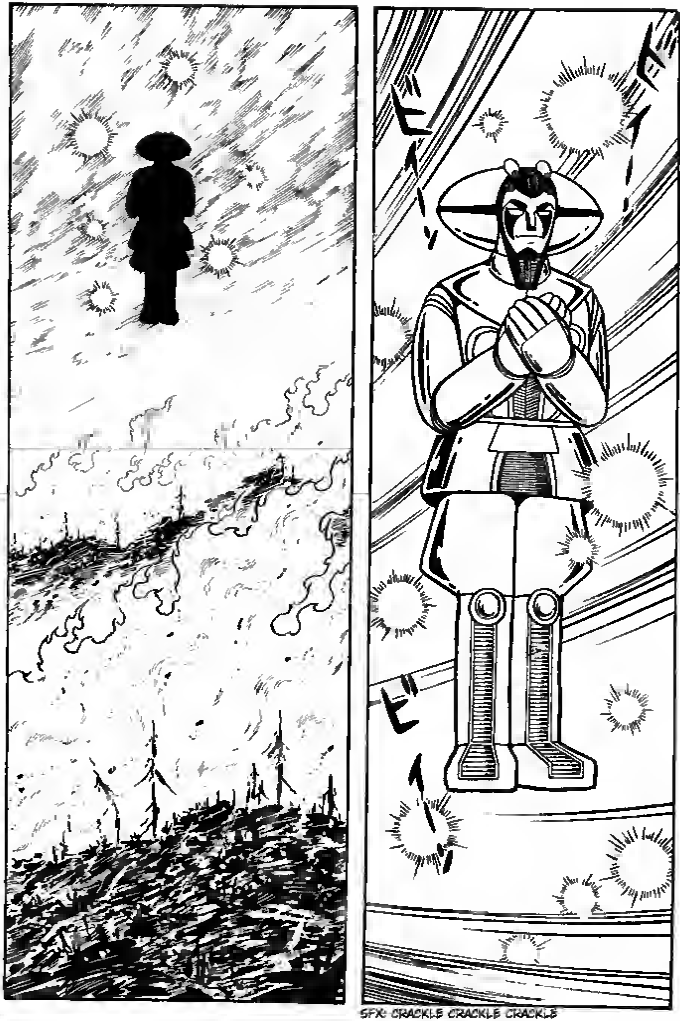
DAMN YOU, GAIA! DO YOU THINK I'LL LET YOU TAKE HIM!?
GAIA'S MAGNETIC FORCE IS PULLING IN MARS!
SFX. CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE

SFX. VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH VSHHH / BOOOM! BOOOM!

SFX. WAHHHHH!

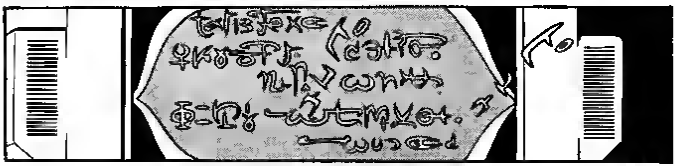
SFX: FRUSHHH FRUSHHH

SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE

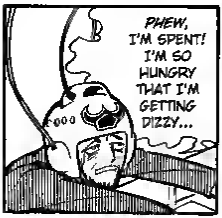


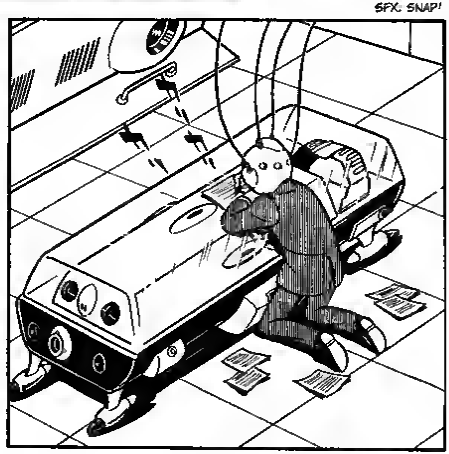
SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE

THE SECRET OF MARS



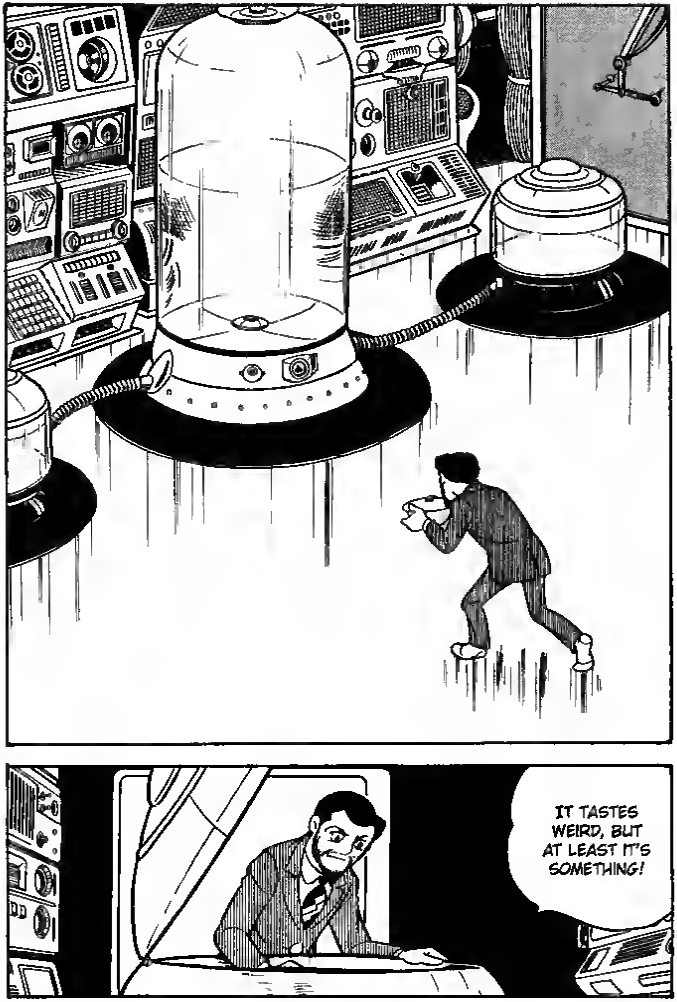
SFX: SNAP!

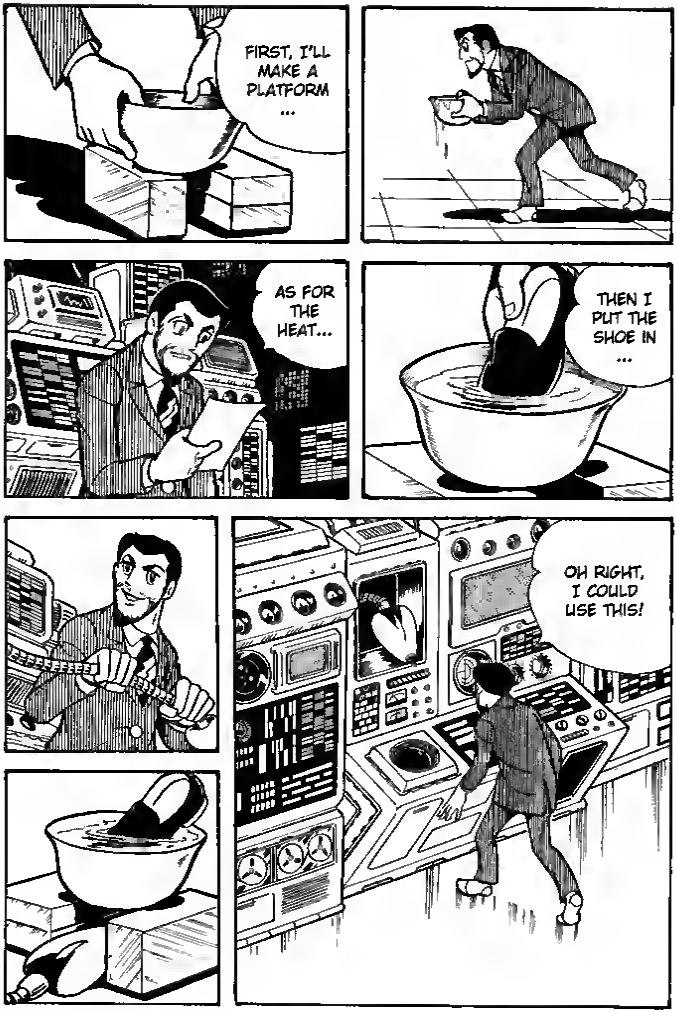




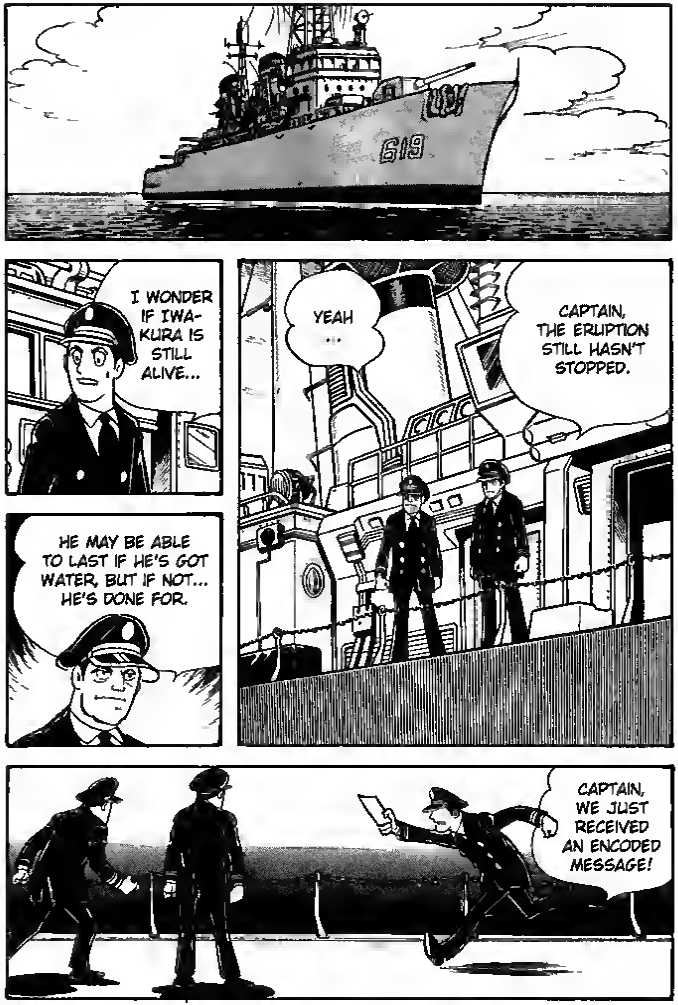
SFX: SCRIBBLE! SCRIBBLE! SCRIBBLE!

HUH ...?
THEY SAY THAT MAO TSE-TUNG SURVIVED THE WAR WHEN HIS FOOD RAN OUT BY EATING HIS OWN SHOES.
THEY'RE MADE FROM REAL LEATHER.
THAT'S IT! I CAN EAT MY SHOES ...!
AND THERE'S SOME WATER BACK HERE!

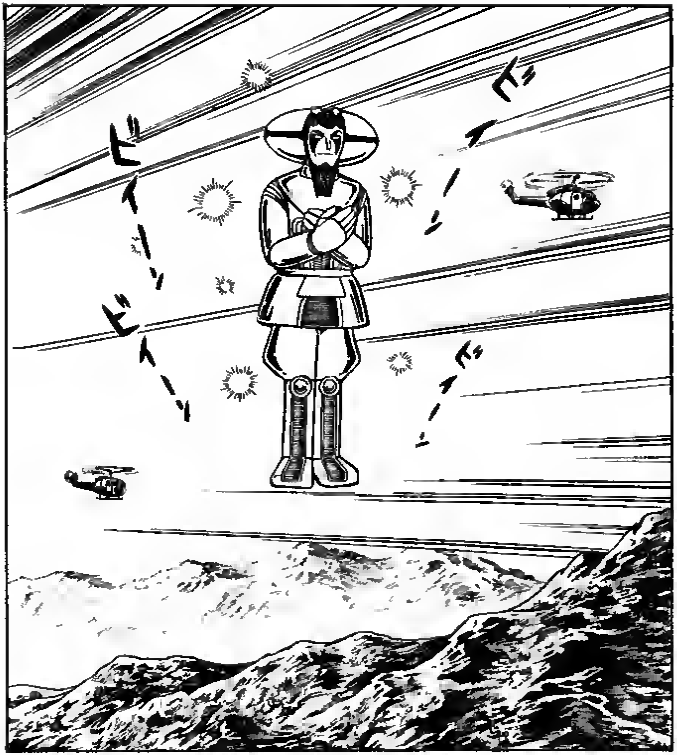

IT TASTES WEIRD, BUT AT LEAST IT'S SOMETHING!

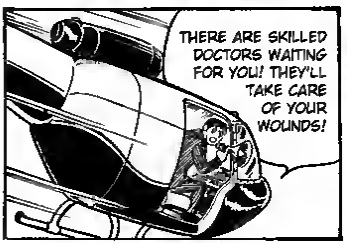

FIRST, I'LL MAKE A PLATFORM ...
AS FOR THE HEAT...
THEN I PUT THE SHOE IN ...
OH RIGHT, I COULD USE THIS!

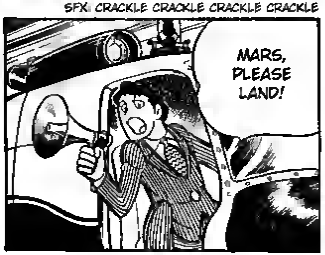
THIS MUST BE THE SWITCH.
SFX FWASHHH!
NOW, TIME TO CONCENTRATE WHILE I WAIT FOR IT TO FINISH.
THAT SHOULD DO IT! NOT BAD, IF I SAY SO MYSELF...
SFX BUBBLE! BUBBLE! / FWASHHH!
NOW, IF THIS IS THE SPELLING FOR "URANUS", THEN THIS MUST BE "U" AND THAT MUST BE "RA" ...
SFX: SCRIBBLE! SCRIBBLE!

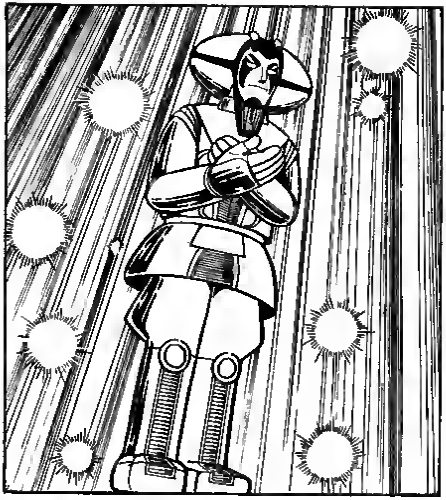

619
I WONDER IF IWAKURA IS STILL ALIVE...
HE MAY BE ABLE TO LAST IF HE'S GOT WATER, BUT IF NOT... HE'S DONE FOR.
YEAH ...
CAPTAIN, THE ERUPTION STILL HASN'T STOPPED.
CAPTAIN, WE JUST RECEIVED AN ENCODED MESSAGE!

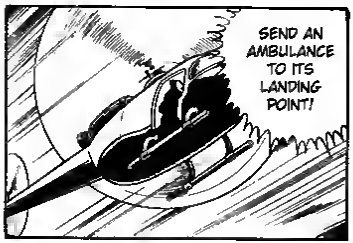
IT ALSO APPEARS THAT MARS IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION...
MARS AND GAIA WERE DISCOVERED IN THE AIRSPACE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIMIJE!
BUT RIGHT NOW, OUR HANDS ARE TIED.
I UNDER-STAND...
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO MARS, EARTH COULD BE DESTROYED. INVESTIGATE MARS' SECRET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

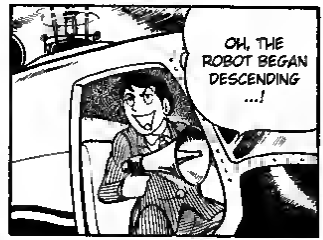

SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE

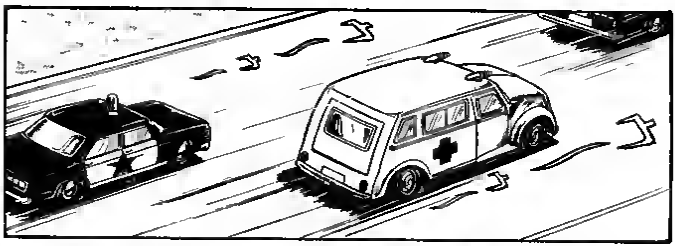

THERE ARE SKILLED DOCTORS WAITING FOR YOU! THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF YOUR WOUNDS!


MARS, PLEASE LAND!



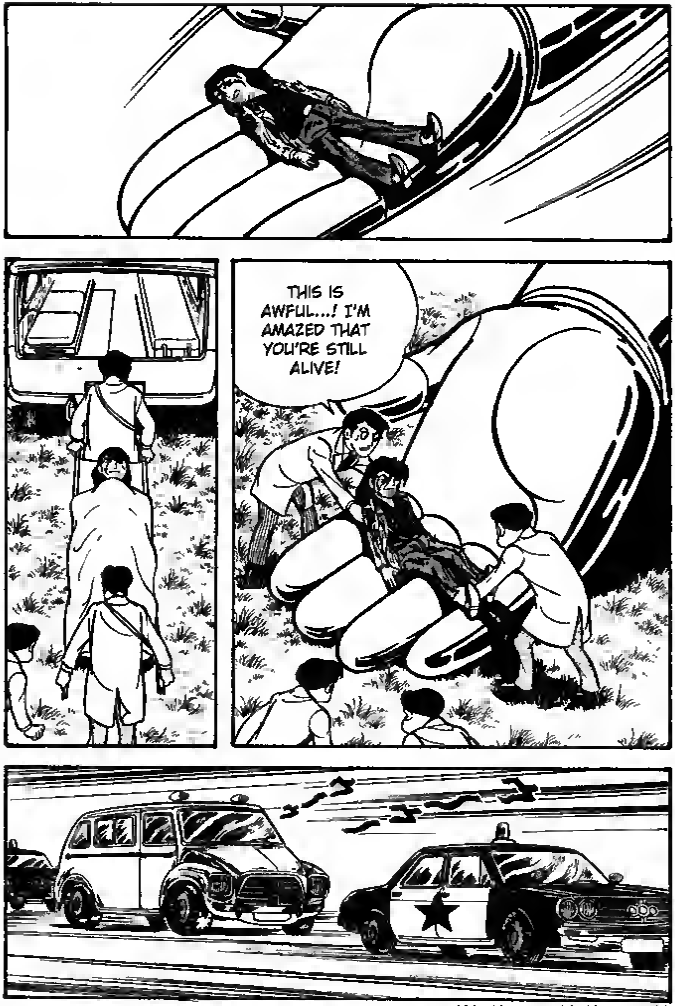






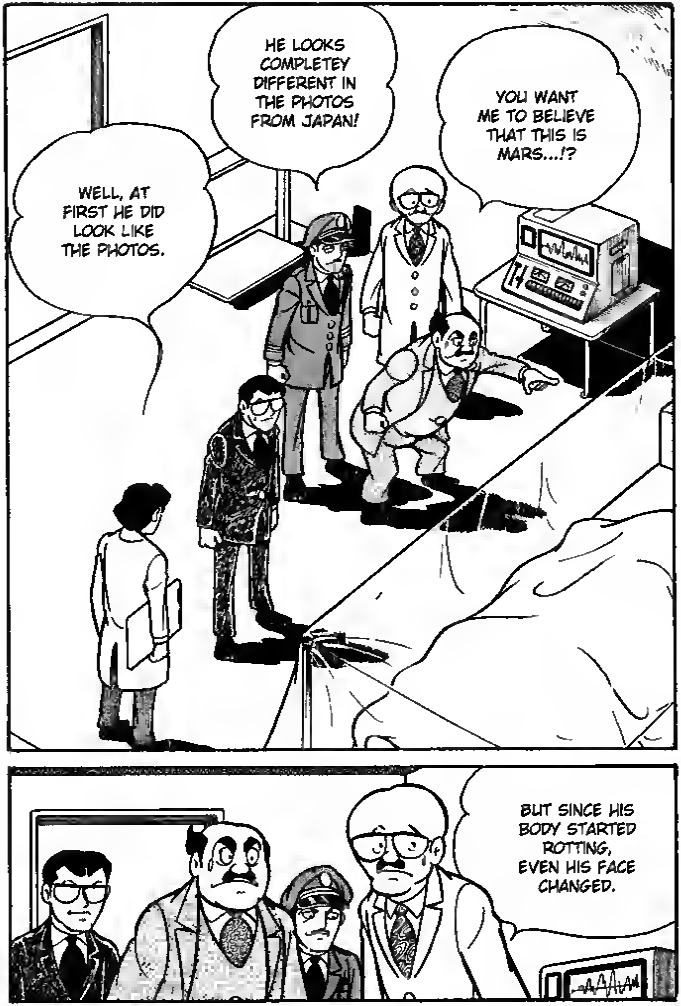
SFX WHOOOOOOSH WHOOOOOOSH

SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE CRACKLE / WHOOOOOOSH WHOOOOOOSH WHOOOOOOSH


THIS IS AWFUL...! I'M AMAZED THAT YOU'RE STILL ALIVE!
SFX WHOOOOOOSH WHOOOOOOSH

SFX SKREEEEEK!
HOW IS MARS DOING ..?
PRIME MINISTER ...!
IT'S THAT BAD ...?
IT DOESN'T SEEM VERY HOPEFUL.

AND IF THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, HIS BODY IS BEGINNING TO ROT STARTING FROM HIS SHOULDERS.
NONE OF THE MEDICINE WE GIVE HIM DOES ANYTHING.
AH, I'M SORRY... ANYWAY, TAKE ME TO HIM.
?
LISTEN! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF HE DIED!?
RIGHT THIS WAY...
SFX. CLACK!
T- THAT'S MARS!?
UH-!


HE LOOKS COMPLETEY DIFFERENT IN THE PHOTOS FROM JAPAN!
YOU WANT ME TO BELIEVE THAT THIS IS MARS...!?
WELL, AT FIRST HE DID LOOK LIKE THE PHOTOS.
BUT SINCE HIS BODY STARTED ROTTING, EVEN HIS FACE CHANGED.

AFTER ALL, OUR MEDICINE ISN'T HAVING ANY SORT OF EFFECT.
WE'RE NOT SURE ...
SO DO YOU HAVE ANY HOPE THAT HE'LL HEAL?
IF HE KEEPS ROTTING LIKE THIS...
?
THIS IS NO JOKE! IF MARS DIES, WE ALL DIE!!

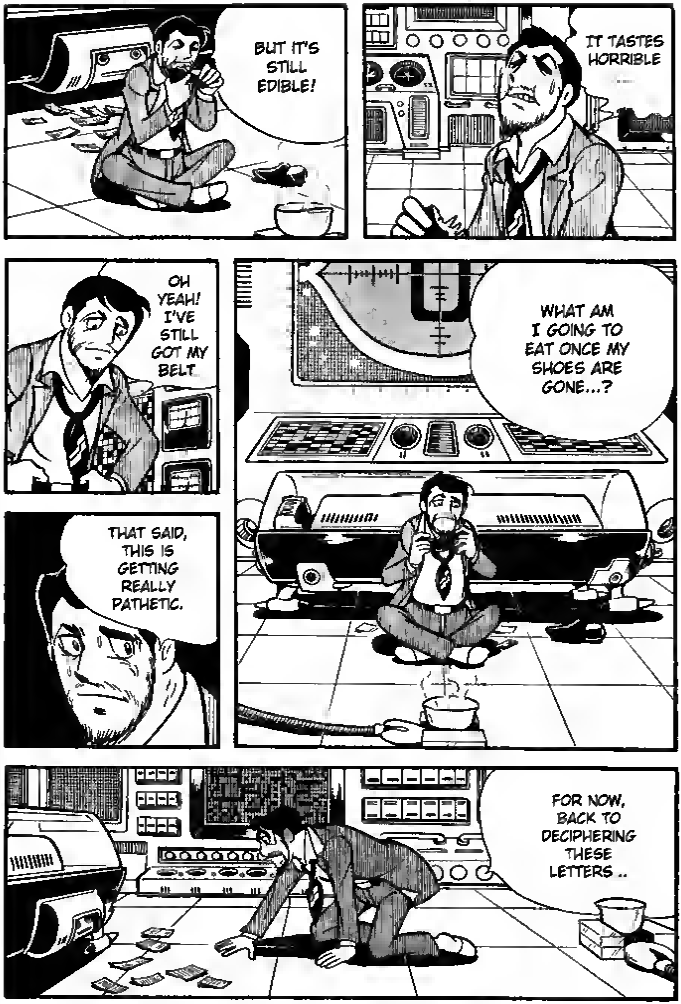
BUT WE WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND A WAY TO HEAL HIM IF WE'RE KEPT IN THE DARK!
I CAN'T TELL YOU ANY MORE THAN THAT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WE BELIEVE THIS BOY MAY NOT BE FROM EARTH ...
WHAT!? YOU NOTICED SOMETHING ABOUT HIM ...!?
THIS BOY SEEMS TO BE DIFFERENT FROM NORMAL HUMANS.
LET ME SHOW YOU.
WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

LOOKS INSIDE HERE, THIS IS ONE OF MARS' HAIRS.
NOW, GO AHEAD! TOUCH IT.
EXACTLY. YOU CAN'T BEND IT NOR BREAK IT.
THIS IS A SURPRISE .. IT ALMOST FEELS LIKE STEEL!

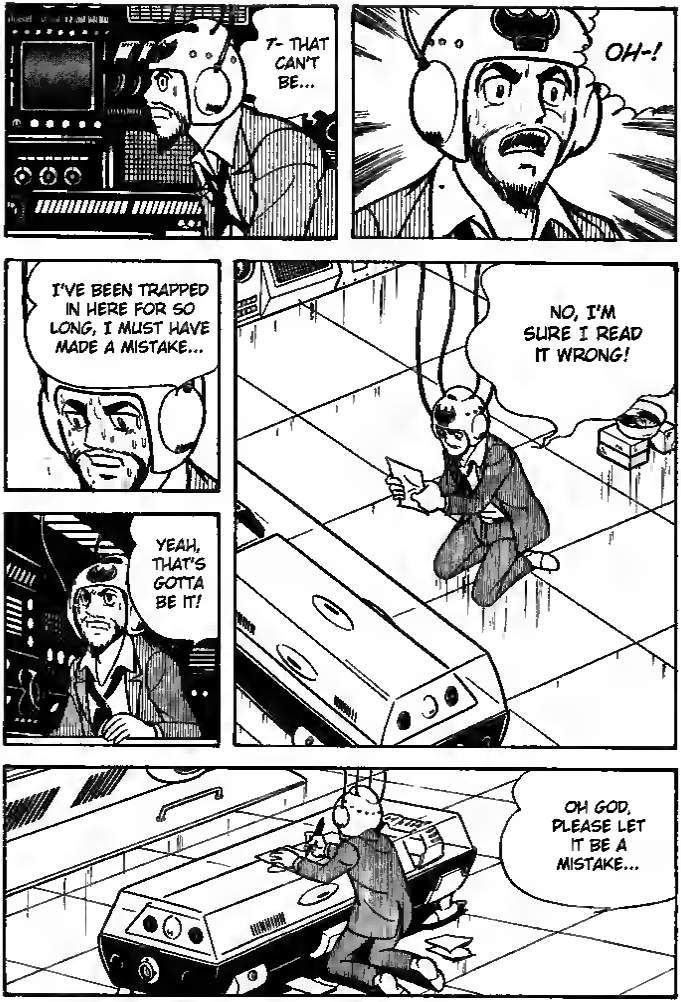
NOW, LET ME SEE THAT
Y- YOU'RE RIGHT...
THIS IS WATER AT THE SAME TEMPERATURE AS MARS' BODY...
HUH !?
THE HAIR TURNS TO STEEL AT ANY TEMPERATURE HOTTER OR COLDER THAN THIS

NOW WHAT KIND OF HUMAN FROM EARTH WOULD HAVE HAIR LIKE THAT?
ピーン
SFX: FLASH
YOU MAY BE RIGHT...
PRIME MINISTER! TELL US THE TRUTH. IF THIS BOY IS FROM ANOTHER WORLD, NONE OF MEDICINES WILL WORK ON HIM!
HE'S DEFINITELY NOT FROM EARTH.
SO IT'S REALLY TRUE .. BUT IF SO, HOW CAN WE CURE HIM!?

IT'S BEEN BOILING FOR FIVE HOURS ALREADY...
SFX. BUBBLE BUBBLE
WELL, AT LEAST IT'S NICE AND SOFT!
I WONDER IF IT'S EDIBLE NOW...?
SFX. CHOMP!

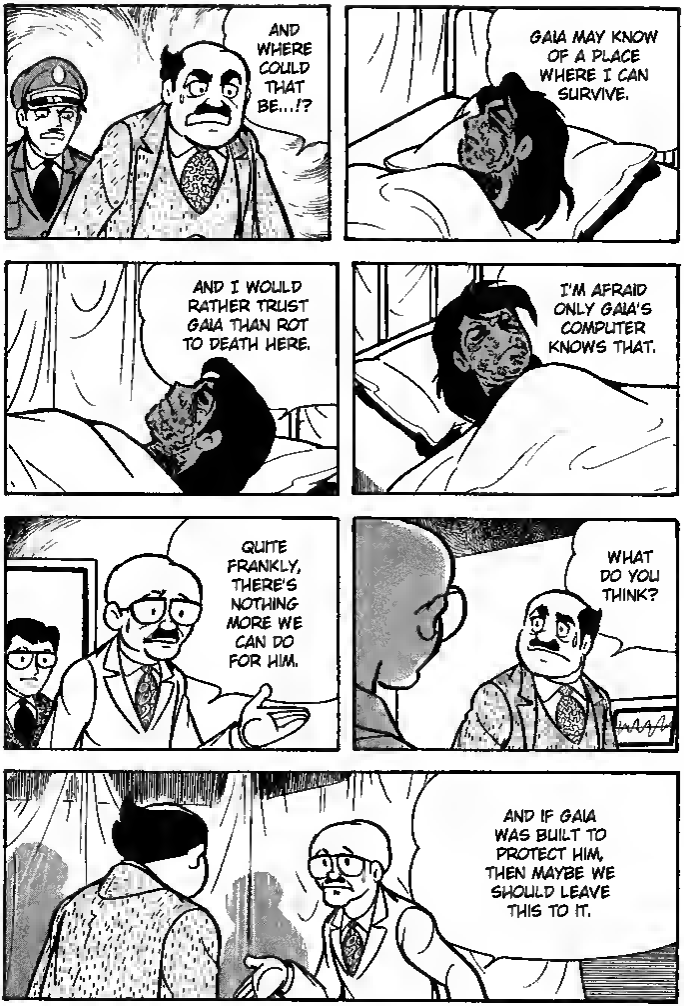

BUT IT'S STILL EDIBLE!
IT TASTES HORRIBLE
OH YEAH! I'VE STILL GOT MY BELT
WHAT AM I GOING TO EAT ONCE MY SHOES ARE GONE...?
THAT SAID, THIS IS GETTING REALLY PATHETIC.
FOR NOW, BACK TO DECIPHERING THESE LETTERS ..

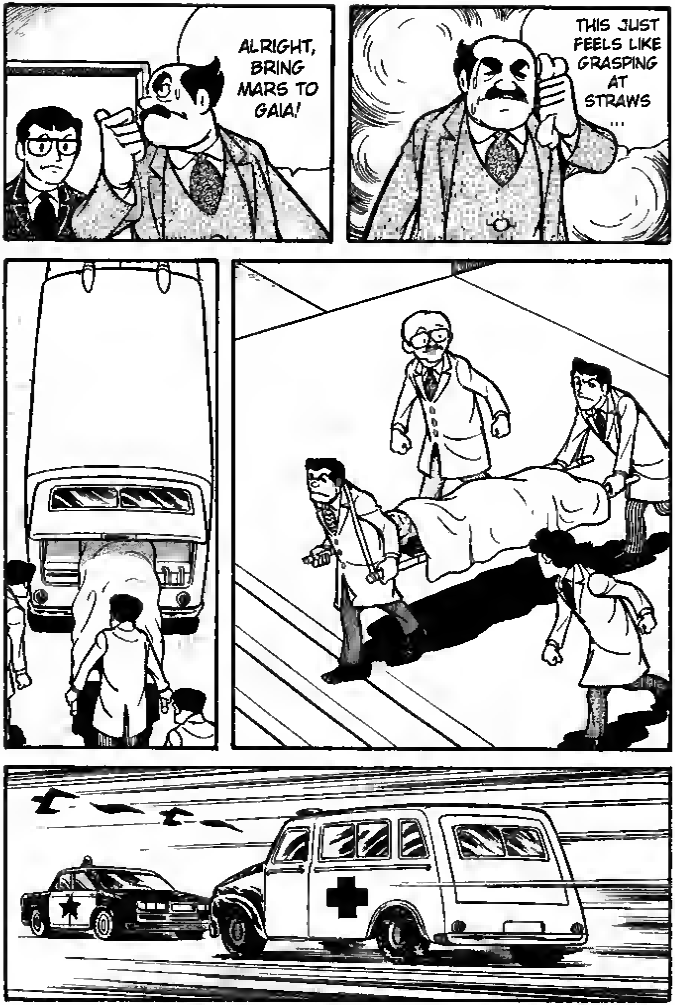
AND THESE ARE "KA", "KI", "KU" "KE" AND "KO" ..
THIS IS A "U"...
THIS IS AN "A" ...
WELL, LET'S TRY READING IT OVER AGAIN
SFX: SNAP! SNAP!

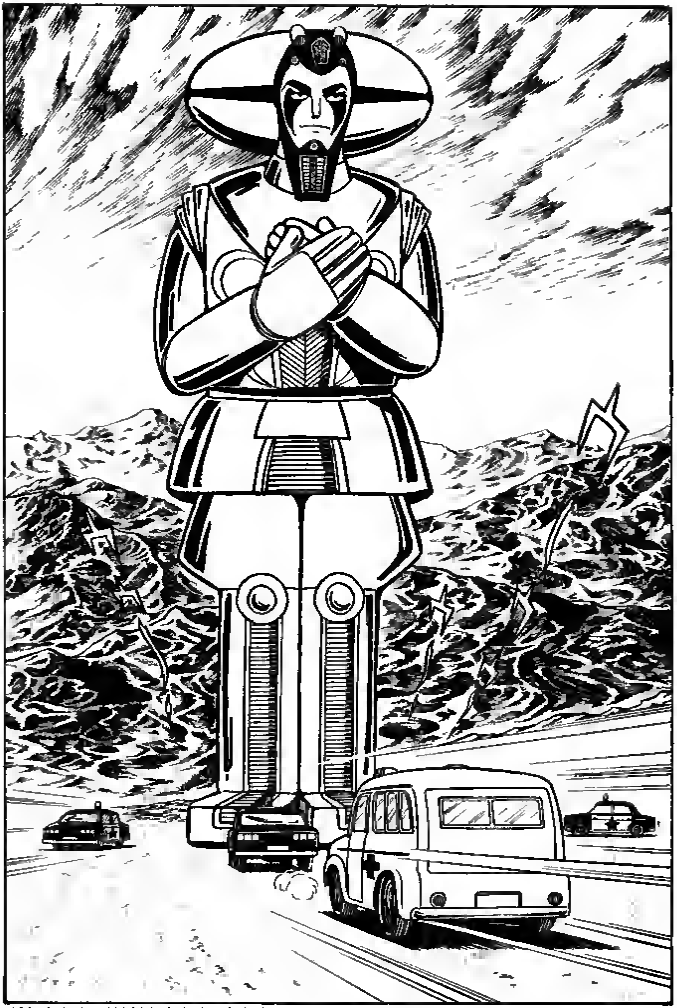

T- THAT CAN'T BE...
OH-!
I'VE BEEN TRAPPED IN HERE FOR SO LONG, I MUST HAVE MADE A MISTAKE...
NO, I'M SURE I READ IT WRONG!
YEAH, THAT'S GOTTA BE IT!
OH GOD, PLEASE LET IT BE A MISTAKE...

MARS CORNERED

HOW DO YOU FEEL?
OH! HE'S AWAKE...
NO, YOU'RE GETTING BETTER AND BETTER!
I'M DONE FOR, AREN'T I...?
WHEN I ORDERED GAIA TO BRING ME TO A SAFE PLACE, IT TRIED TO LEAD ME SOMEWHERE...
WH- WHAT IS IT...?
YOUR CONSOLATION MEANS NOTHING TO ME...
SO I HAVE ONE THING TO ASK OF YOU.


AND WHERE COULD THAT BE...!?
GAIA MAY KNOW OF A PLACE WHERE I CAN SURVIVE.
AND I WOULD RATHER TRUST GAIA THAN ROT TO DEATH HERE.
I'M AFRAID ONLY GAIA'S COMPUTER KNOWS THAT.
QUITE FRANKLY, THERE'S NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO FOR HIM.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
AND IF GAIA WAS BUILT TO PROTECT HIM, THEN MAYBE WE SHOULD LEAVE THIS TO IT.


ALRIGHT, BRING MARS TO GAIA!
THIS JUST FEELS LIKE GRASPING AT STRAWS ...
SFX. WOOO WOOO



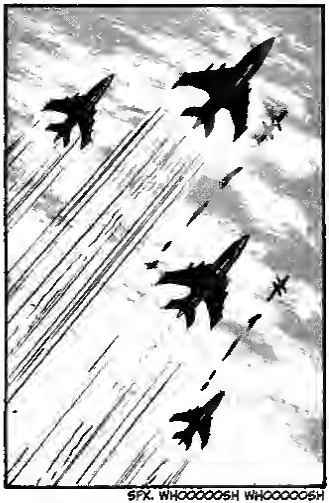
SFX. WOOOOO WOOOOO WOOOOO WOOOOO

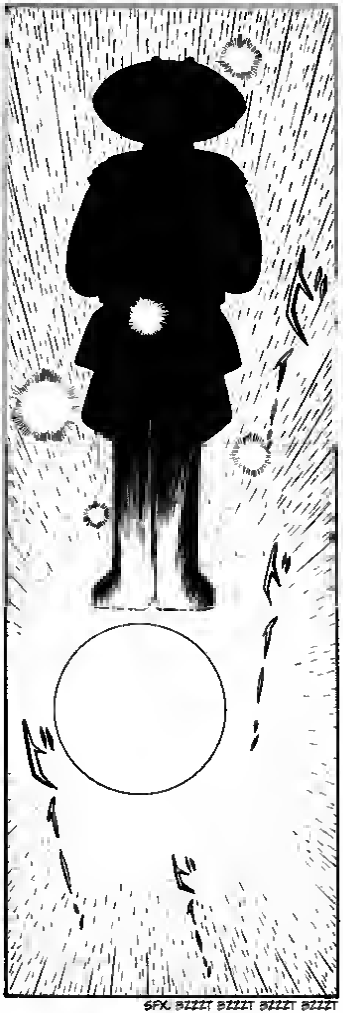
GAIA
...
TAKE ME SOMEWHERE SAFE...!
SFX: BZZZT BZZZT
SFX: BZZZT BZZZT

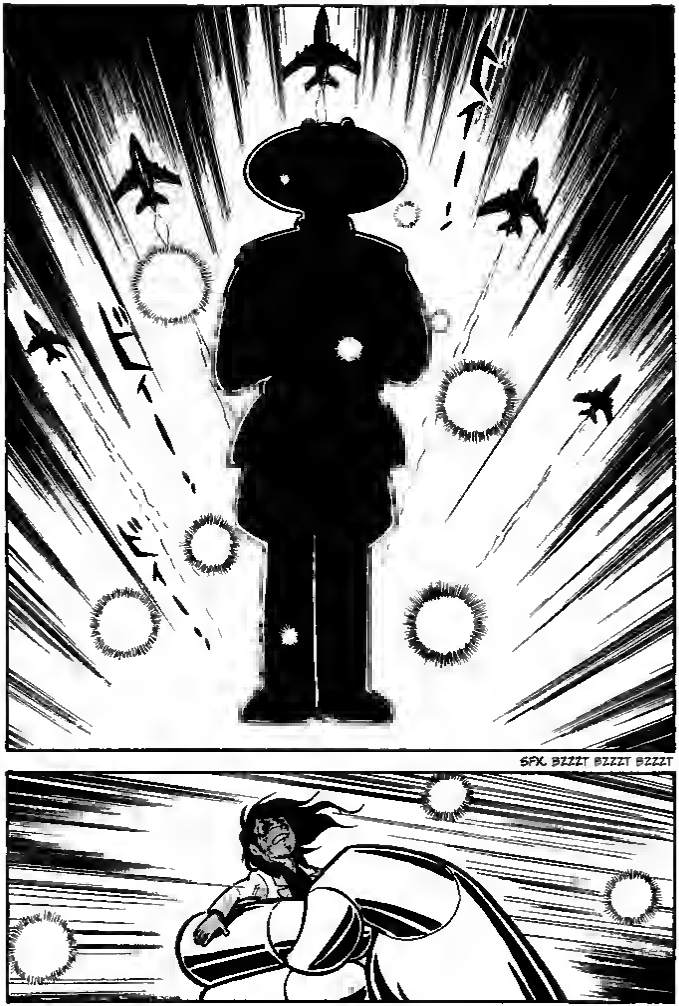
SFX. BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT

IS THE AIR FORCE ESCORTING THEM?

YES, SIR. LOOK UP THERE.

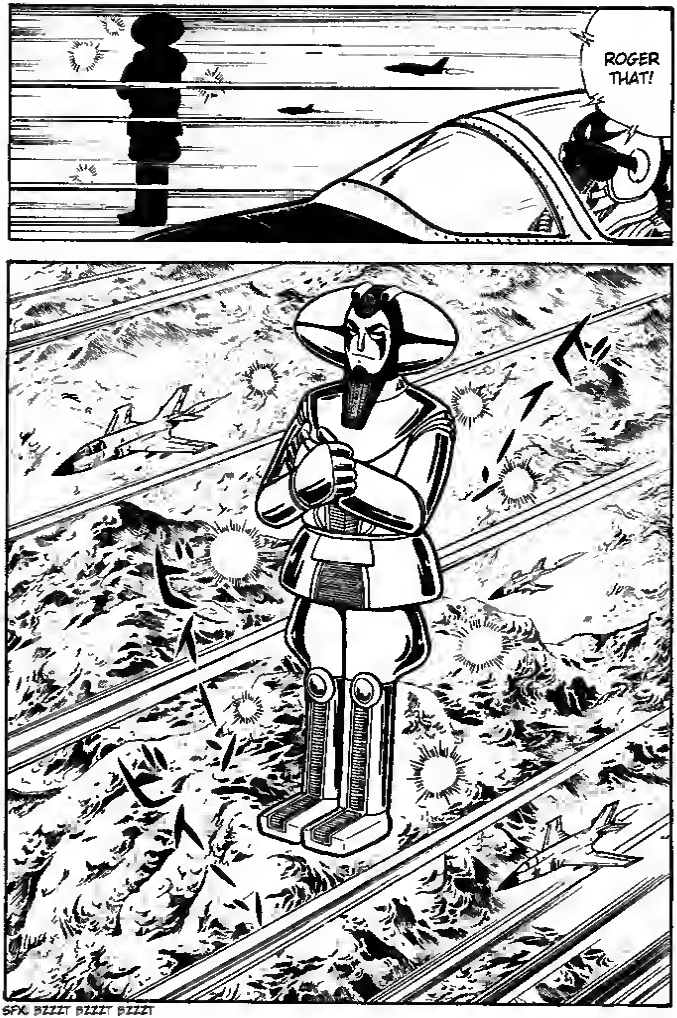

SFX. WHOOOOOSH WHOOOOOSH

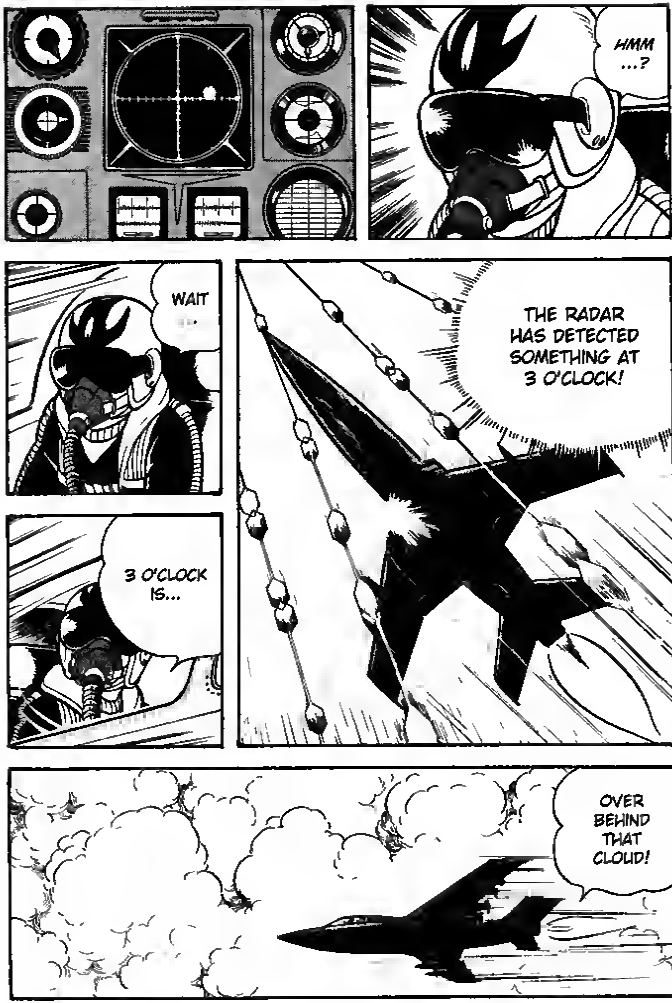

SFX. BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT

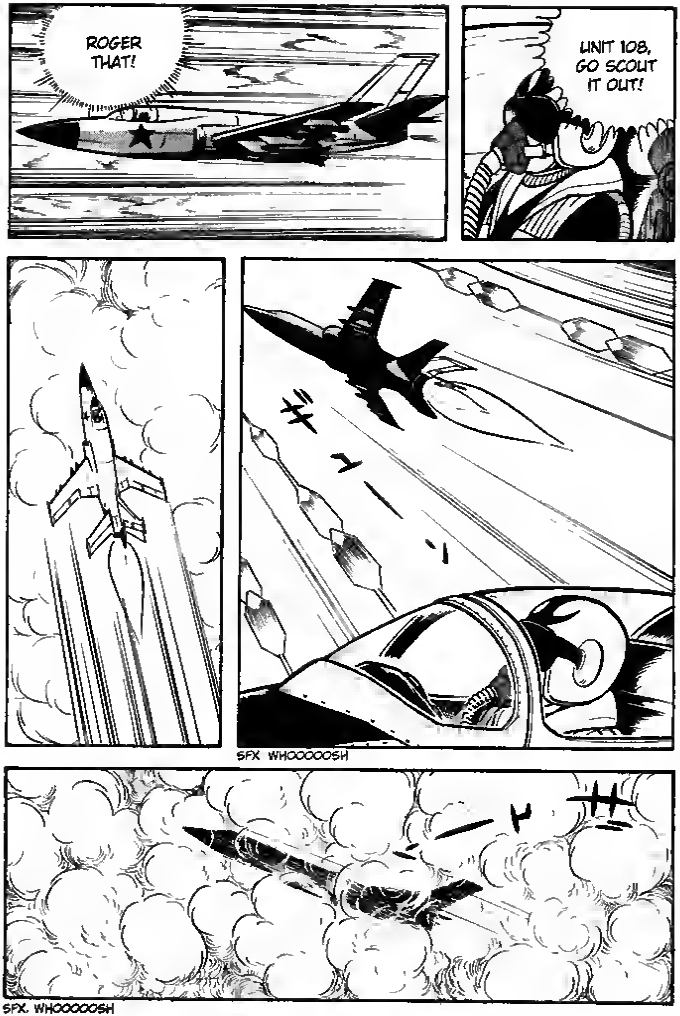


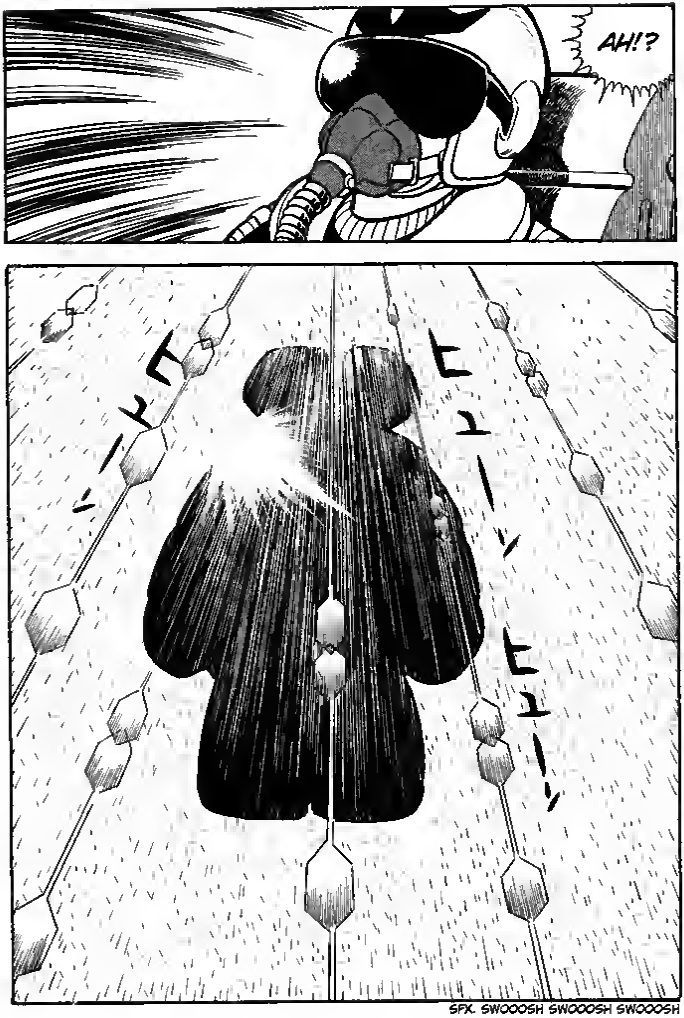
SFX. BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT

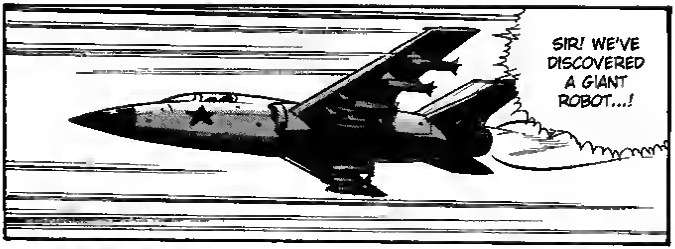
WE HAVE NOTHING TO REPORT. WE WILL BE CROSSING THE BORDER SHORTLY!
HEAD-QUARTERS! TIGER SQUAD HERE!
HEADQUARTERS HERE! YOU MAY TURN BACK ONCE YOU REACH THE BORDER. LET OUR NEIGHBORS' AIR FORCE ESCORT THEM!

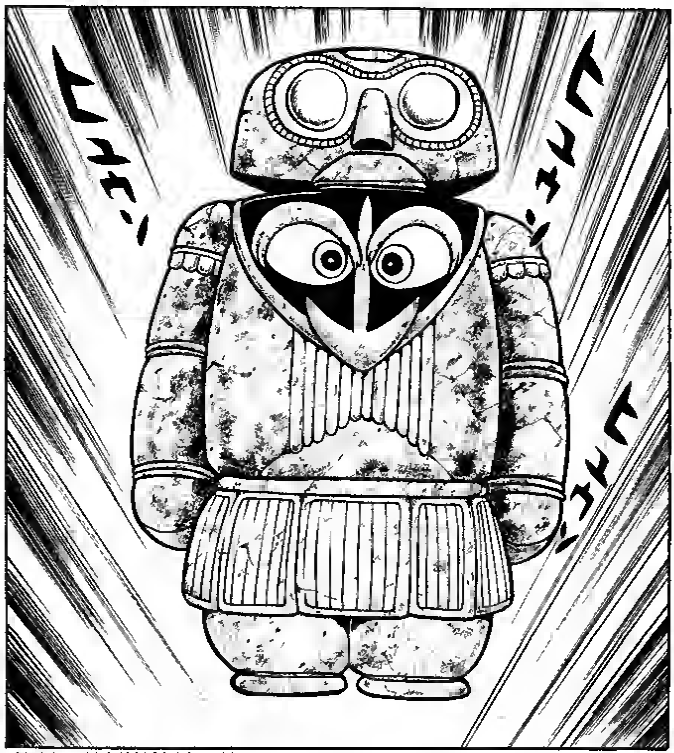

ROGER THAT!
SFX: BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT

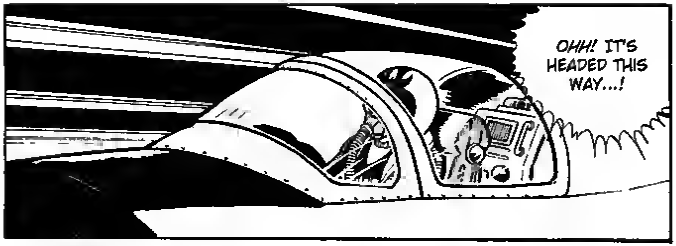

HMM ...?
WAIT ...
THE RADAR HAS DETECTED SOMETHING AT 3 O'CLOCK!
3 O'CLOCK IS...
OVER BEHIND THAT CLOUD!

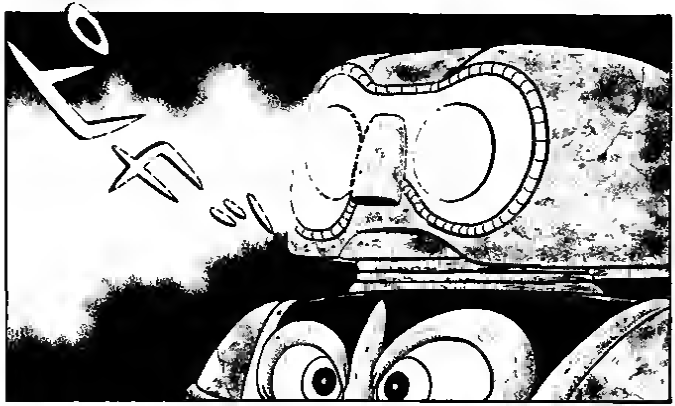

ROGER THAT!
UNIT 108, GO SCOUT IT OUT!
ギューン
SFX WHOOOOOSH
SFX WHOOOOOSH

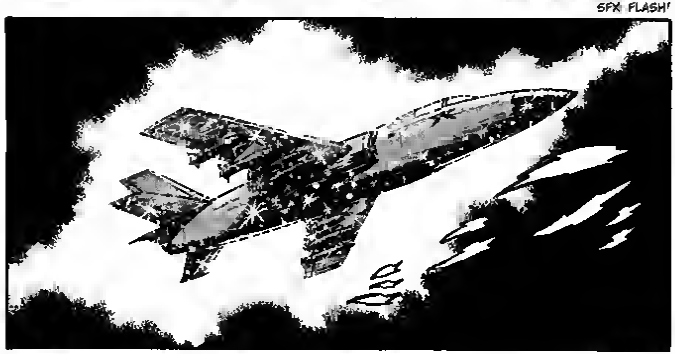

AH!?
ヒュー
ヒュー
ヒュー
SFX. SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH

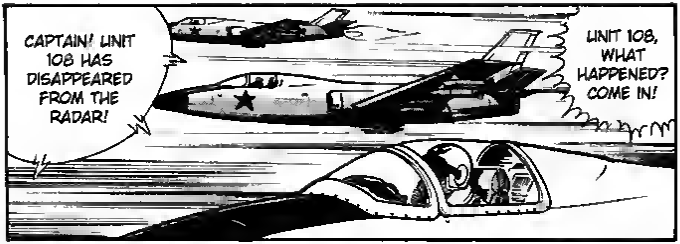

SIR! WE'VE DISCOVERED A GIANT ROBOT...!

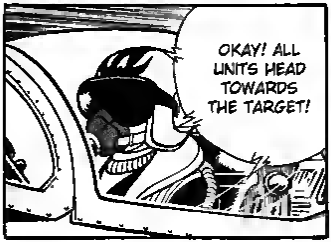

SFX. SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH

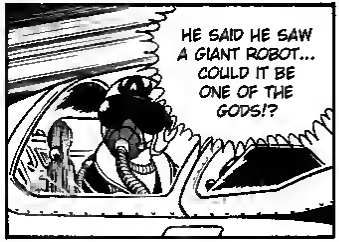

OHH! IT'S HEADED THIS WAY...!

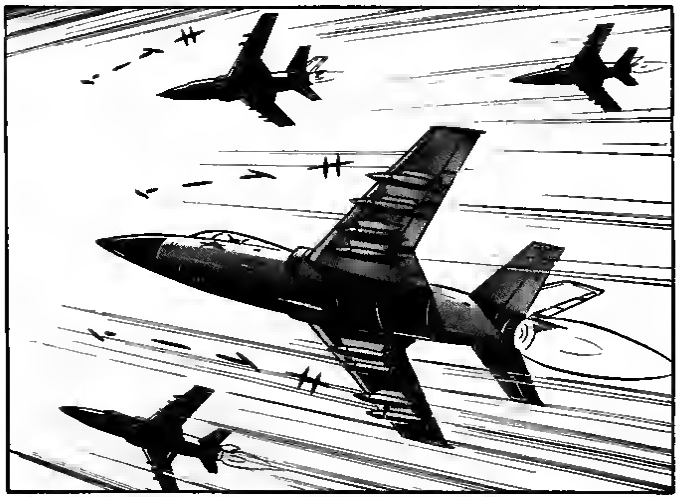

SFX. FLASH!


SFX. CRACKLE!

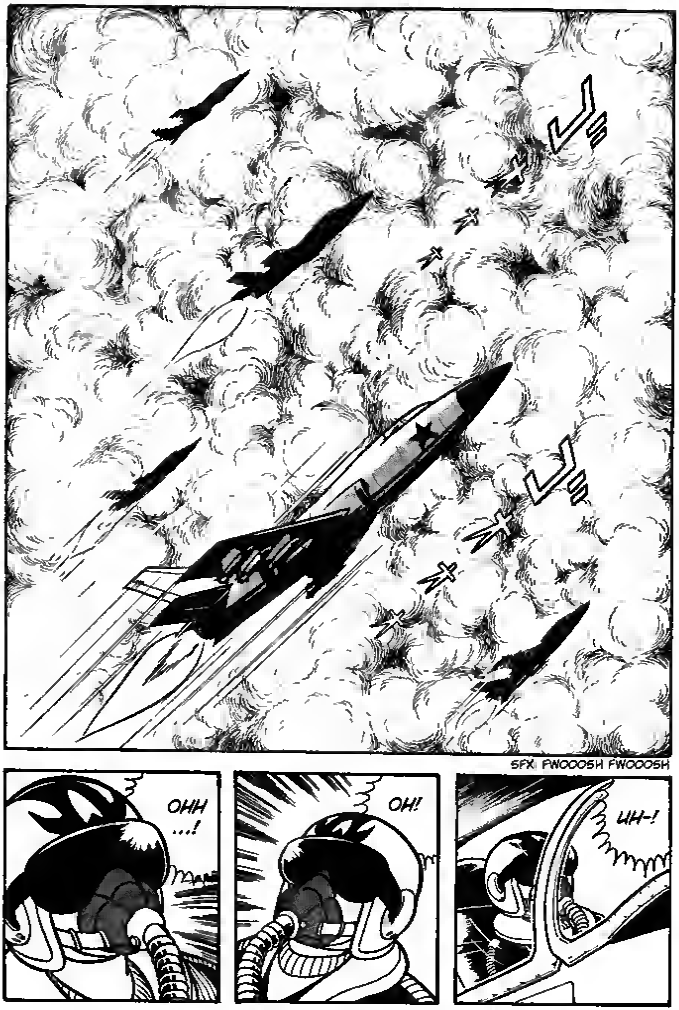


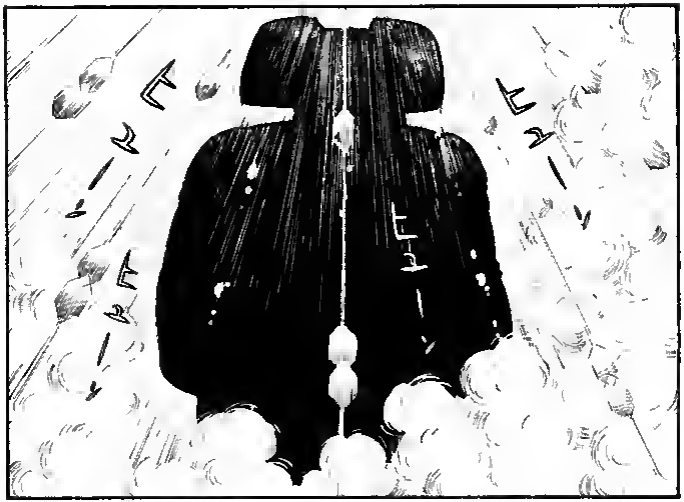




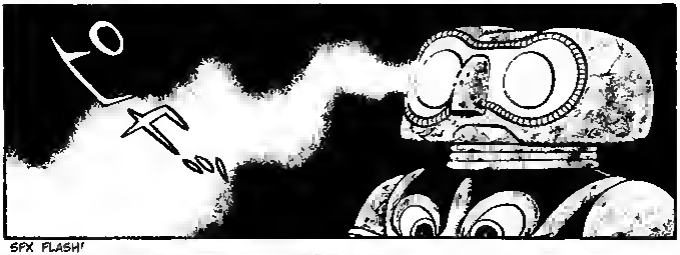


SFX WHOOOOOSH WHOOOOOSH WHOOOOOSH


SFX: FWOOOSH FWOOOSH
OHH ...!
OH!
UH-!



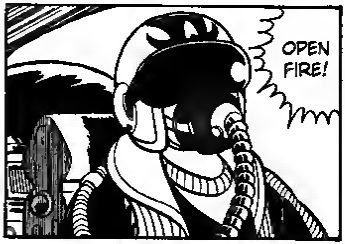
SFX SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH

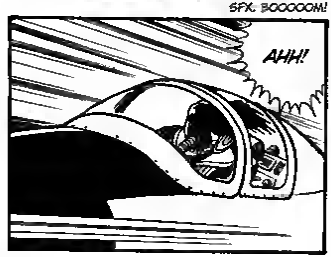


SFX FLASH!

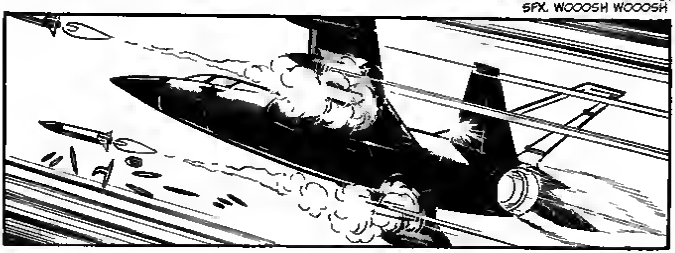
SFX. CRACKLE!

SFX. BOOOOOM!



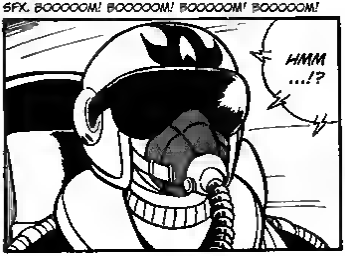


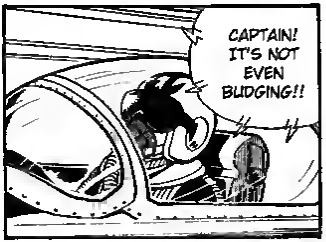
SFX. WOOOSH WOOOSH



SFX. WOOOSH

SFX. BOOOOOM! BOOOOOM! BOOOOOM! BOOOOOM!

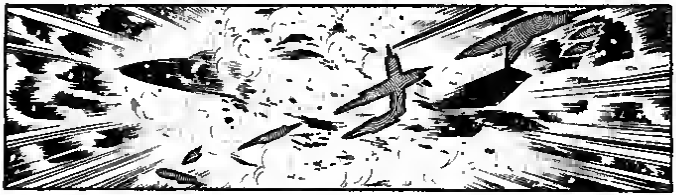




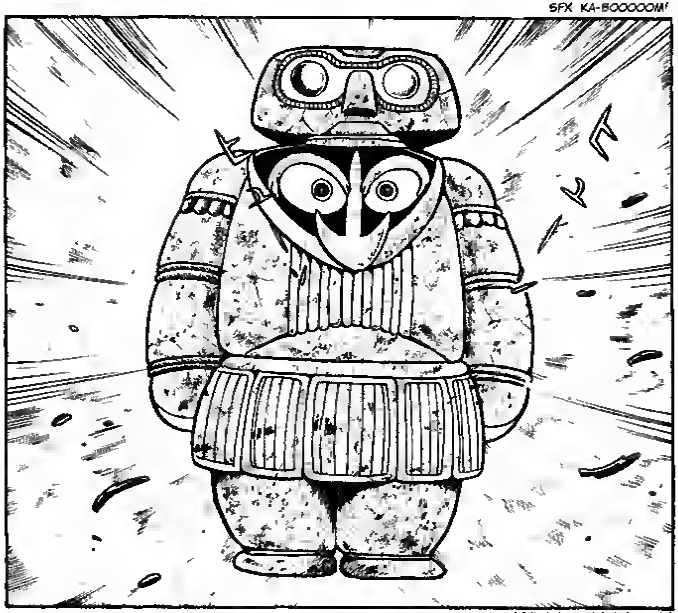
SFX FLASH!
SFX BOOOOOM!

GAIA... IT'S ANOTHER GOD.
THOSE JETS ARE NO MATCH FOR IT.
SFX: BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT
BUT YOU CAN'T FIGHT WHILE HOLDING ME.
ALRIGHT, LET ME DOWN!

SFX: BOOOOOM!

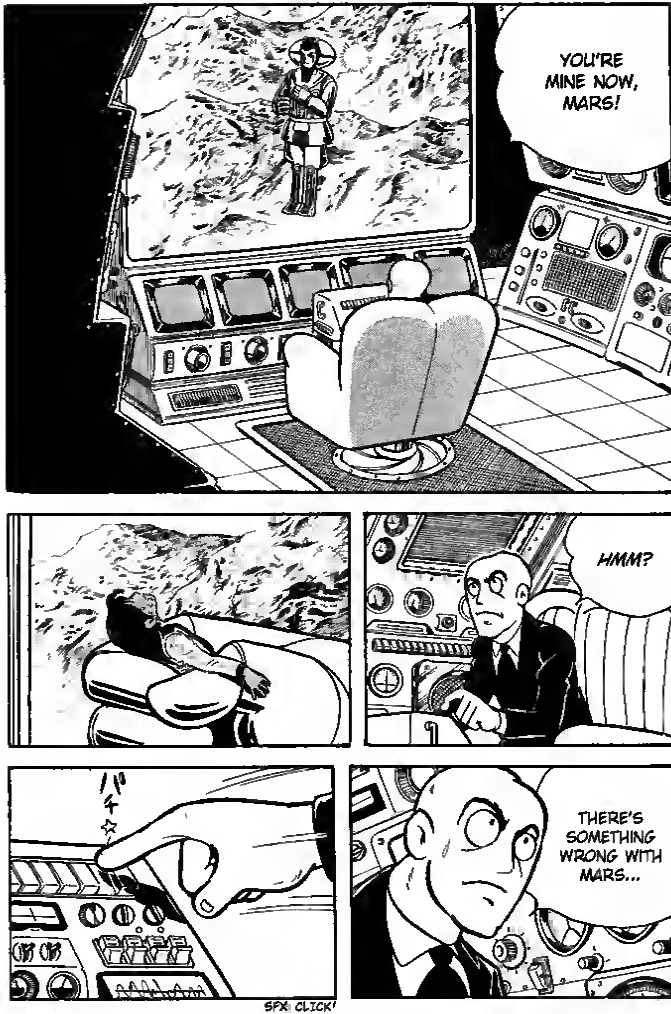


SFX KA-BOOOOOM!



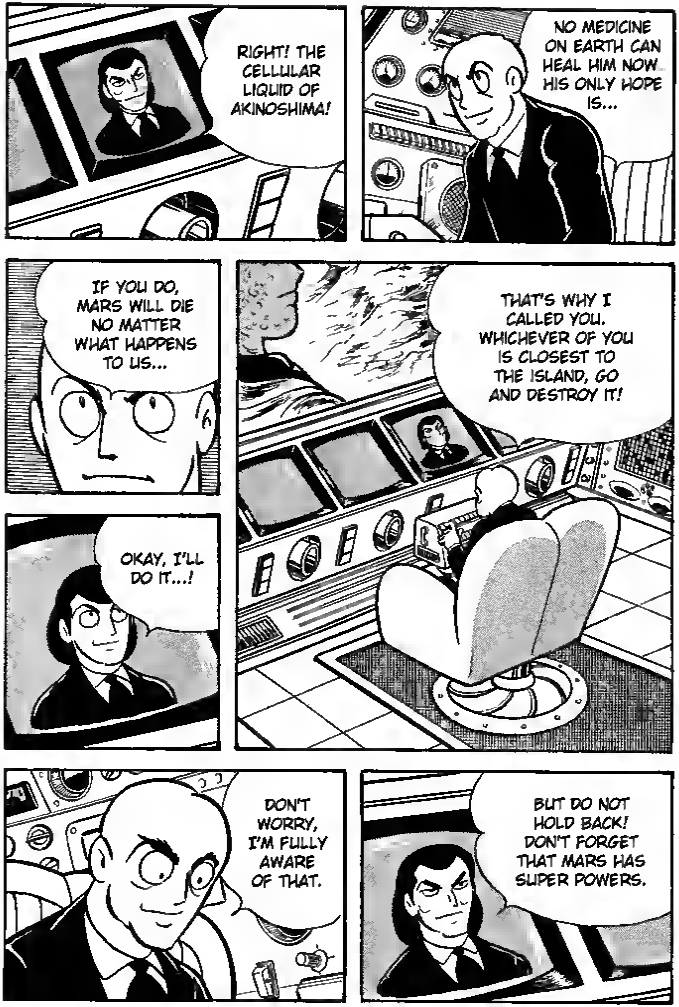
SFX SWOOOSH SWOOOSH

GAIA, THE GOD IS ABOVE US...!
SFX. SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH


YOU'RE MINE NOW, MARS!
HMM?
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH MARS...
SFX: CLICK!

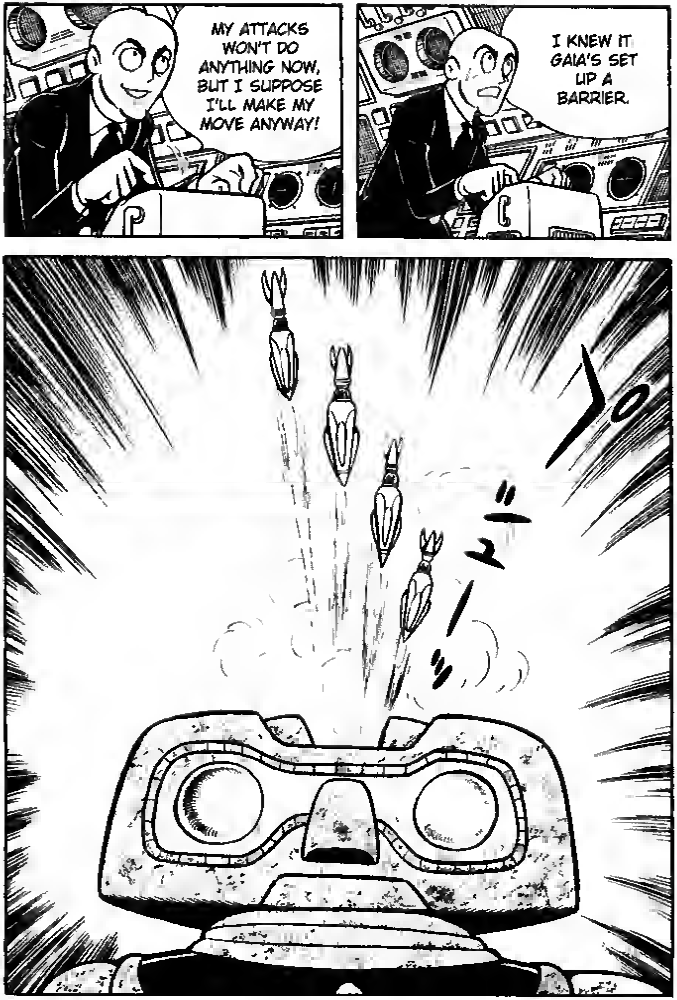
AH!
H-HE'S ...!
IS THIS AN EMERGENCY ...?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SIN?
SFX. TAK! TAK!
SFX. BZZZT BZZZT

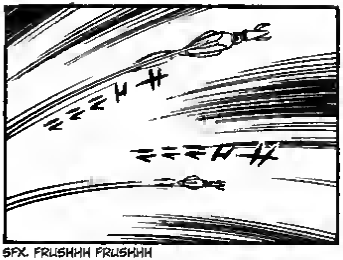
WHAT ...!?
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT MARS' BODY IS ROTTING!
I JUST MAGNIFIED HIS IMAGE ON THE MONITOR. THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!
ARE YOU SURE YOU AREN'T MISTAKEN ...?
OH!
HIS SKIN HAS TURNED GRAY, AND HIS FACE IS SWOLLEN.
THAT MUST MEAN HIS CELLS HAVE BEGUN TO ROT!


RIGHT! THE CELLULAR LIQUID OF AKINOSHIMA!
NO MEDICINE ON EARTH CAN HEAL HIM NOW. HIS ONLY HOPE IS...
IF YOU DO, MARS WILL DIE NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO US...
THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU. WHICHEVER OF YOU IS CLOSEST TO THE ISLAND, GO AND DESTROY IT!
OKAY, I'LL DO IT...!
DON'T WORRY, I'M FULLY AWARE OF THAT.
BUT DO NOT HOLD BACK! DON'T FORGET THAT MARS HAS SUPER POWERS.

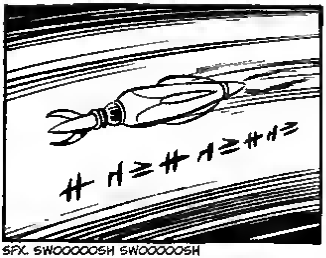
HOW SHALL I ATTACK MARS? I CAN'T DO ANYTHING AS LONG AS GAIA IS PROTECTING HIM.
NOW THAT THAT'S SETTLED ...
SFX CLICK!
WHATEVER THE CASE, MY FIRST PRIORITY IS KEEPING MARS FROM AKINOSHIMA!
SFX. SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH
THROW ME TO THE GROUND!
YOU CAN'T FIGHT WHILE HOLDING ME!
GAIA, IT'S COMING!

SFX FLASH!
SFX: SHOCKKKKK!


MY ATTACKS WON'T DO ANYTHING NOW, BUT I SUPPOSE I'LL MAKE MY MOVE ANYWAY!
I KNEW IT. GAIA'S SET UP A BARRIER.
SFX. FWOOOOOSH

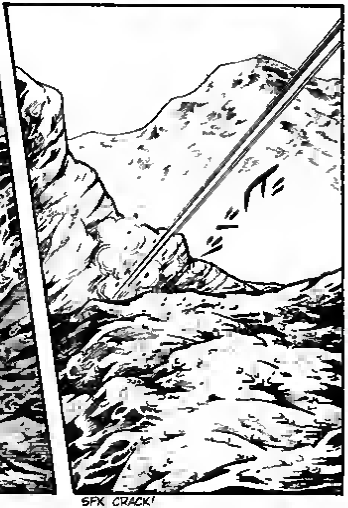


SFX. FRUSHHH FRUSHHH

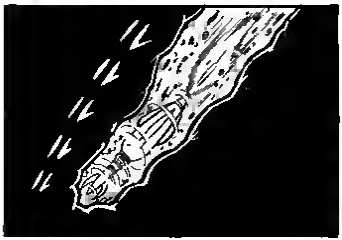


SFX. SWOOOOOSH SWOOOOOSH

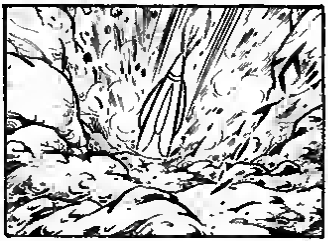
SFX CRACK!



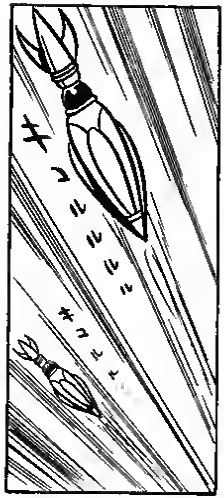
SFX. CRACK!



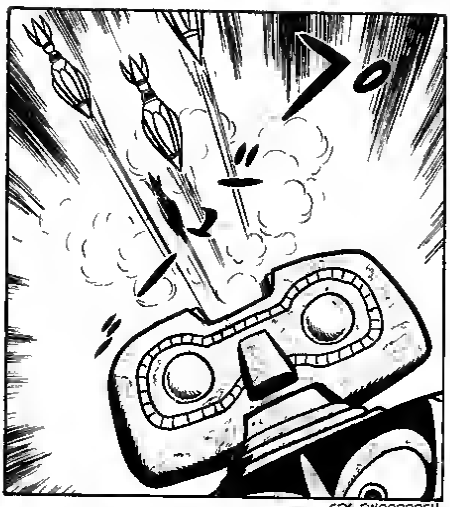
SFX. BAROOOOOM



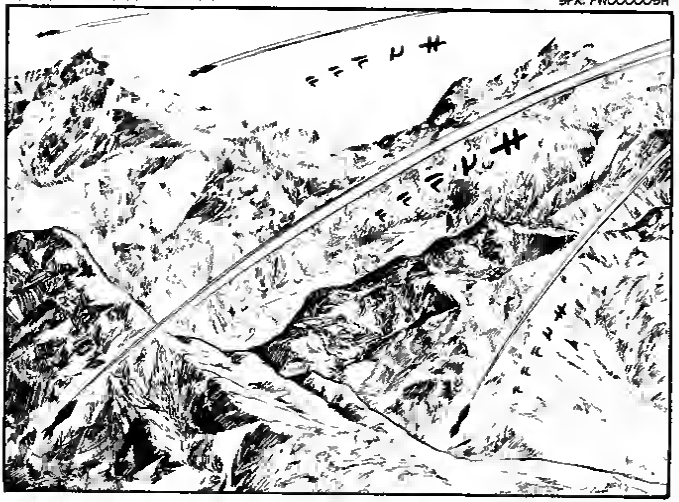
SFX. FWOOOSH



SFX. SWOOOOOSH SWOOOOOSH

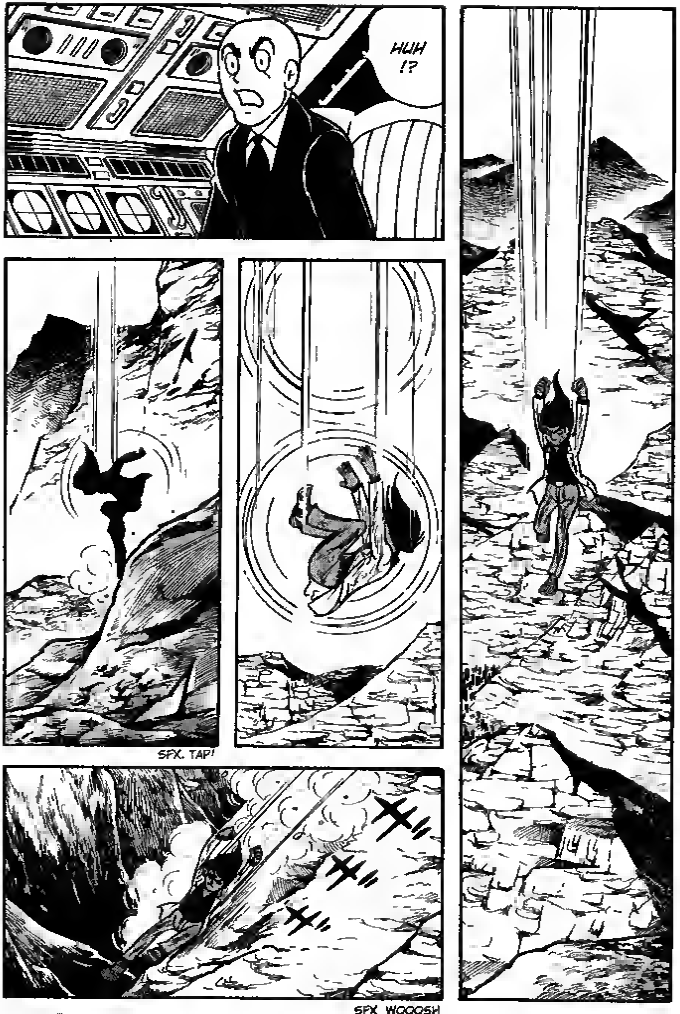


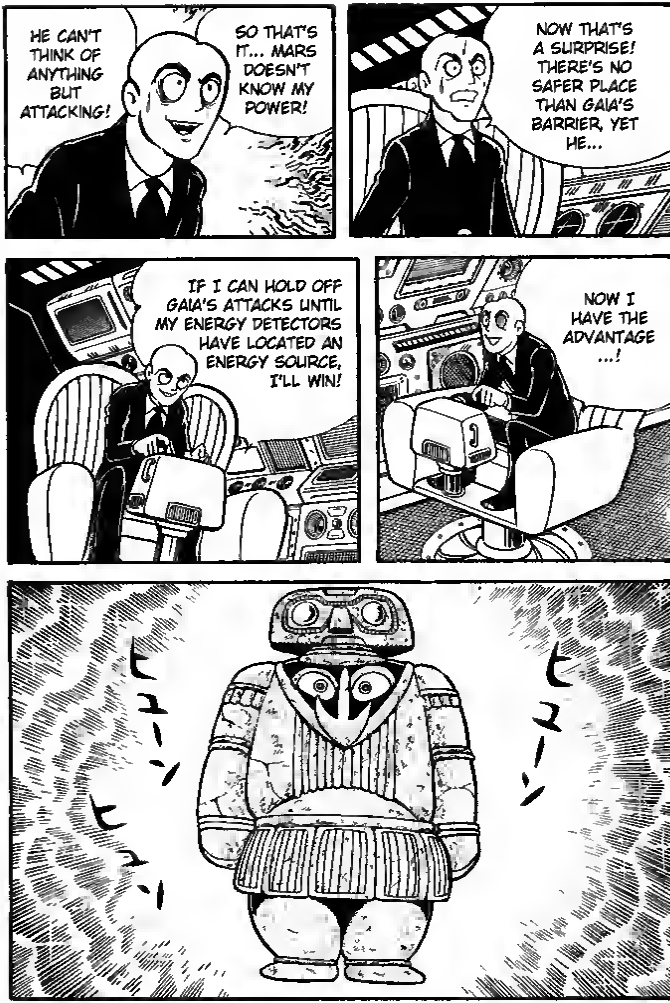
SFX. FWOOOOOSH



SFX. SWOOOOOSH SWOOOOOSH SWOOOOOSH

GAIA, WHY WON'T YOU PUT ME DOWN!?
?
HUH? THAT ROBOT'S TRYING TO DO SOMETHING...
THIS IS AN ORDER! LET ME DOWN AND FIGHT THAT ROBOT!!
YOU CAN'T DO A THING NOW...!
YOUR BARRIER MAY KEEP OUT ENEMY ATTACKS, BUT THEY ALSO PREVENT YOU FROM ATTACKING!
SFX: BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT
SFX SLIIIIIP!

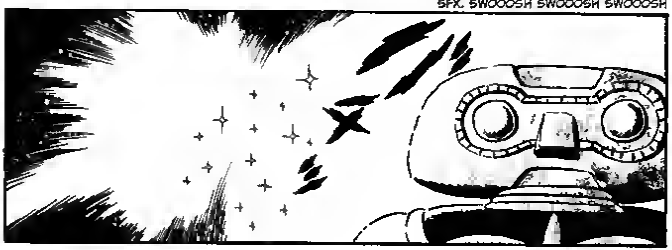

HUH !?
SFX. TAP!
SFX WOOOSH


HE CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING BUT ATTACKING!
SO THAT'S IT... MARS DOESN'T KNOW MY POWER!
NOW THAT'S A SURPRISE! THERE'S NO SAFER PLACE THAN GAIA'S BARRIER, YET HE...
IF I CAN HOLD OFF GAIA'S ATTACKS UNTIL MY ENERGY DETECTORS HAVE LOCATED AN ENERGY SOURCE, I'LL WIN!
NOW I HAVE THE ADVANTAGE ...!
ヒューン
ヒューン

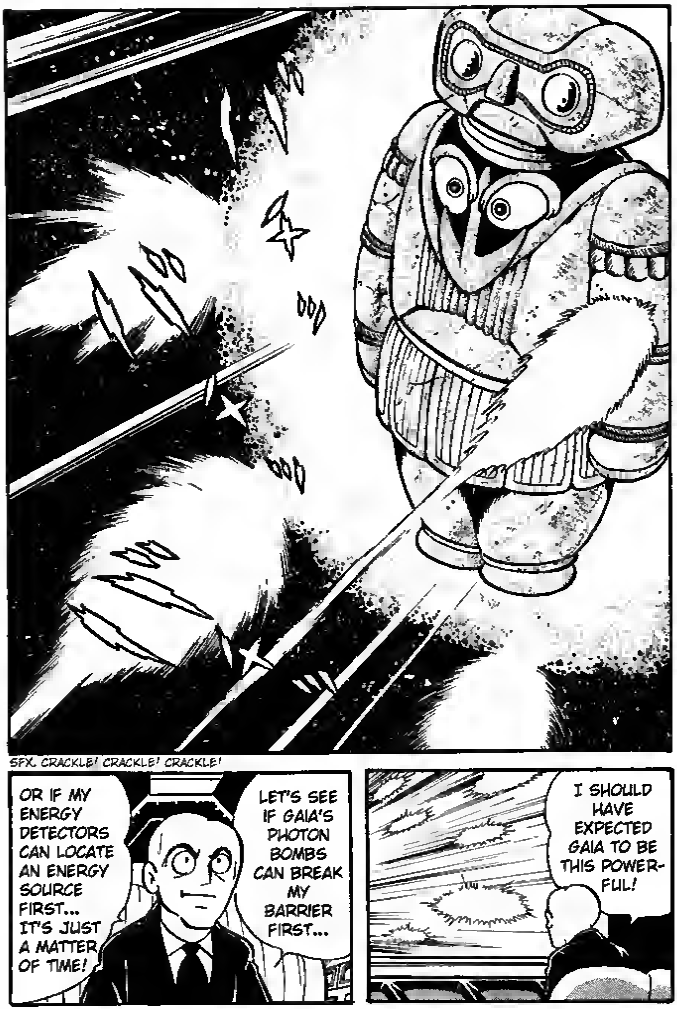
SFX. SWOOOOOSH SWOOOOOSH SWOOOOOSH

SFX: BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT

SFX: SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH

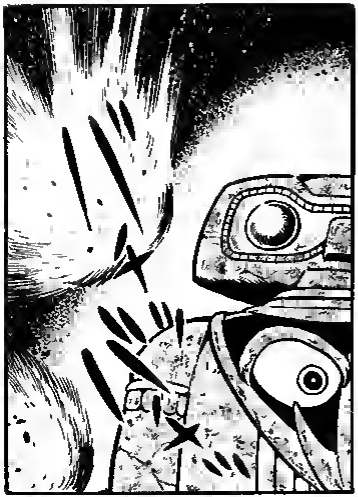


SFX: CRACKLE! CRACKLE!


SFX. CRACKLE! CRACKLE! CRACKLE!
OR IF MY ENERGY DETECTORS CAN LOCATE AN ENERGY SOURCE FIRST... IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME!
LET'S SEE IF GAIA'S PHOTON BOMBS CAN BREAK MY BARRIER FIRST...
I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED GAIA TO BE THIS POWERFUL!

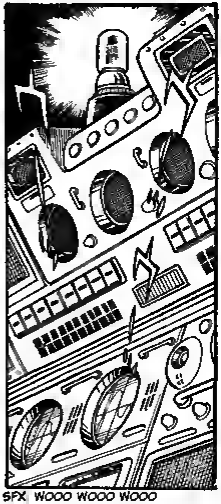
SFX. BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT

SFX. SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH

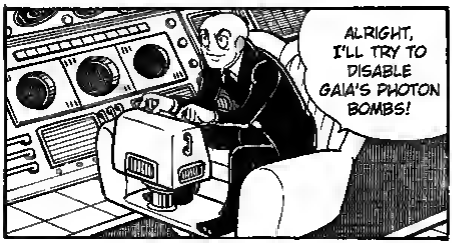


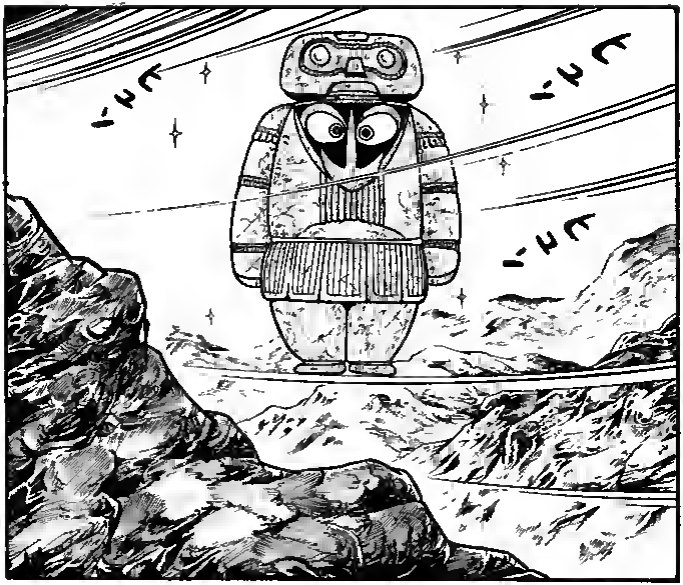
SFX: CRACKLE! CRACKLE!

SFX: CRACKLE! CRACKLE!

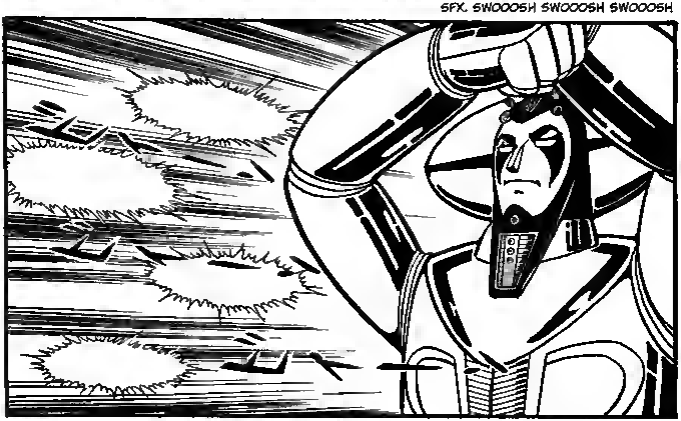


SFX: WOOO WOOO WOOO

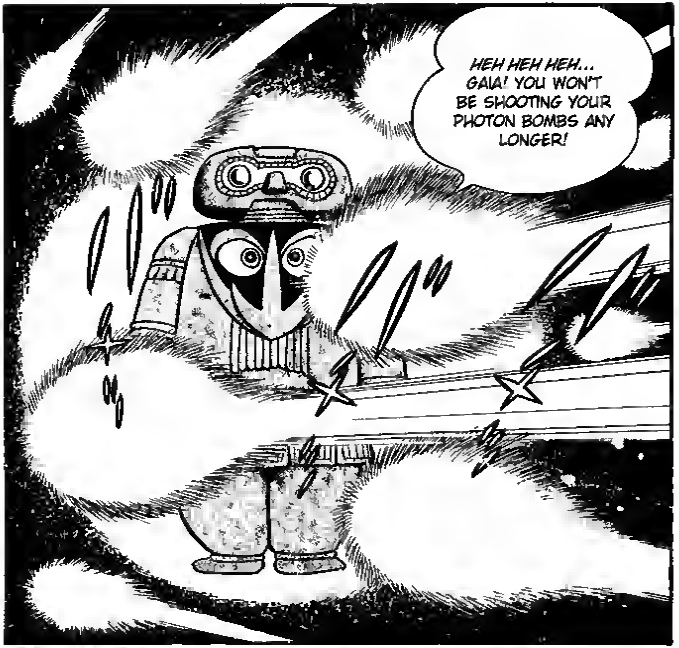




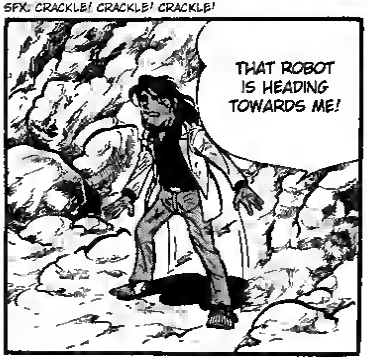
SFX. SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH



SFX. BZZZT BZZZT BZZZT



SFX: CRACKLE! CRACKLE! CRACKLE!



SFX: SWOOOSH SWOOOSH SWOOOSH
IS IT TRYING TO FOCUS ON ME!?

MARS

Volume 3

TRANSLATION: KATATONIA
TRANSLATION CHECK: SYSTEMATIC-CHAOS
CLEANER: WRIGHT
EDITOR: PATRICK

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